



# User's Manual SeaFET pH Sensor

SeaFET Firmware Version 3.6.0 and later  
SeaFETCom Software Version 1.2.4



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# Cautions And Hazards

SeaFET has sensitive components that can be damaged by improper storage and handling. SeaFET may become highly pressurized during deep deployment and could cause personal injury if not properly depressurized. SeaFET contains a battery pack that may present an electrical hazard if improperly handled. **Ensure that all instrument users have read and understood all cautions and hazards cited in this section.**



## Cautions

**SEAWATER ONLY!** WHEN SEAFET IS NOT IN SERVICE, THE WET CAP MUST BE IN PLACE AND FILLED WITH CLEAN SEAWATER . IMMERSING THE SENSING ELEMENTS IN FRESH WATER CAN LEAD TO SENSOR INSTABILITY AND DAMAGE .

- Do not allow the DuraFET KCl gel or the wet cap filling solution to freeze during shipping or deployment. This will damage the DuraFET and void the warranty.
- Never let the sensing elements dry out. If SeaFET is to not to be redeployed immediately, put the wet cap in place and fill it with artificial sea water.
- The ISFET is light sensitive and will produce a voltage offset if illuminated. If the SeaFET is deployed with the flow cell, the flow cell should be shaded (e.g. using tape).
- Never lift SeaFET by pulling it from the cable. This can cause damage to the bulkhead connectors, cables, and splices.
- Dummy connectors should always be replaced as soon as SeaFET is retrieved. This will help protect the bulkhead connector from dirt and damage.
- Always rinse SeaFET with sterile artificial sea water prior to storage. Damage resulting from failure to do so is not covered under warranty. Refer to the [Maintenance](#) section of this manual for instructions.
- Do not leave SeaFET in direct sunlight on deck when it is not being used. Direct sunlight can can damage SeaFET by overheating it.
- When deploying SeaFET in water, do not leave it or any other instrument unattended. Boat drift can entangle the cable and cause damage or instrument loss.



### **Pressure Hazard**

**DANGER!** If you suspect that the instrument has flooded, use **EXTREME CAUTION** around the instrument.

- If the instrument leaked at depth it might remain pressurized when recovered and cause the end cap to be launched from the pressure case with **extreme force** . If you suspect a flood, make sure to check the instrument for signs of pressurization. If the instrument is pressurized you may notice the gap between the end cap and pressure case look to be extended.
- To relieve the instrument pressure, stand to the side of the instrument. Relieve the pressure by **VERY slowly** removing the pressure relief plug using a pair of pliers. Be sure to stand behind the end cap. Be extremely careful, as if the instrument is pressurized the end cap may be forced out of the housing with **extreme force and at high velocity** .
- This work must be performed in a well-ventilated area.



### **Electrical Hazard**

#### **NO BATTERY IS INTRINSICALLY SAFE!**

- Use care when connecting power supply cables to the instrument. A shorted power supply or battery can output maximum current, potentially harming persons, equipment, or perhaps a fuse.
- In preparation for transport or shipping, install the dummy plug with locking sleeve on the instrument connector to prevent accidental shorting of the terminals.
- Handle electrical terminations carefully, as they are not designed to withstand strain. Disconnect the cables from the bulkhead connector by pulling on the connector heads and not the cables. Do not twist or wiggle the connector while pulling, as this will damage the connector pins.
- Do not use petroleum-based lubricants on connectors. Connectors should be free of dirt and lightly lubricated before mating. We recommend applying a thin film of DC-111 silicone grease (made by Dow-Corning) on the male pins prior to connection.
- While probing with a voltmeter, take care not to short the probes. Shorts can damage equipment, create safety

hazards, and blow embedded fuses.

- Do not leave batteries inside the instrument if it is not going to be used for an extended period of time.
- Do not mix used and new cells nor different chemistries when replacing the instrument batteries.

# Quick Start

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**CAUTION:** Read this manual thoroughly before operating your SeaFET. At a minimum, before attempting the quick start instructions below, you **must** understand all warnings and cautions cited in sections Safety and Hazards and [Maintenance](#)

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1. Execute the SeaFETCom installation program as described in the [Installing SeaFETCom](#) section of this manual.
2. From the Windows menu bar, select *Start->Programs->SeaFETCom->SeaFETCom* to start SeaFETCom.
3. Remove the dummy plug from the SeaFET eight-pin connector. Connect the supplied USB or RS-232 programming cable to SeaFET. Secure the locking sleeve.
4. If an RS-232 cable is being used connect the DB9 end to the host computer serial port and the power leads to a live power supply (See the [Specifications](#) section for appropriate external power supply voltage levels). If a USB programming cable is being used connect it to an available USB port on the host computer. A new virtual serial port such as 'COM1' will appear in the Windows device manager list.  
The indicator LED will blink a few times indicating power was applied to the instrument.
5. Press the *Connect* button on the SeaFETCom dashboard to open the *Serial Connect* dialog. Select the SeaFET virtual com port (example 'COM1') and press *Connect* . See section [Connecting to SeaFET](#) for more information.
6. If the SeaFET internal batteries are not already activated the "Internal Battery Voltage Too Low" warning dialog is shown. Activate the internal batteries by connecting an external power supply and then pressing the "Retry" button. The main battery and isolated battery voltage readings will be update.
7. Press the *SeaFET Settings* button on the SeaFETCom dashboard to open the SeaFET Settings dialog. Press **F1** key for help on any selected setting.
8. Select the *Continuous* operational mode. Press the *OK* button to apply changes.
9. Press the *Start* button on the SeaFETCom dashboard. SeaFET will simultaneously transmit data to SeaFETCom, and log it internally. SeaFETCom will display graphic plots of SeaFET sensor data as they are received in real time.
10. Select the *Stop* button on the SeaFETCom dashboard to stop data acquisition.

11. Open *SeaFET Settings* dialog and select *Polled* mode to put SeaFET in low-power standby.

Note that SeaFET can operate immediately after power is applied, but it does require up to 24 hours on standby power to achieve optimal sensor stability.



# Overview

This chapter provides an overview of SeaFET, how the sensor works, and physical and electrical specifications.

Topics in this chapter include:

- [About SeaFET](#)
- [Principle of Operation](#)
- [Major Components](#)
- [Instrument Drawings](#)
- [External Interfaces](#)
- [Power Supplies](#)
- [Specifications](#)
- [On The Cover](#)

## About SeaFET

The SeaFET Ocean pH Sensor was developed by Dr. Kenneth Johnson of the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) and Dr. Todd Martz of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego. Satlantic collaborated with MBARI and Scripps to make the instrument commercially available to researchers.

SeaFET uses innovative ISFET technology to measure pH in marine environments at depths up to 50 meters. With its on-board data storage capability and internal battery pack, SeaFET can operate autonomously over long-term deployments.

SeaFET has an optional capability of interfacing with a Sea-Bird SBE37 CTD or an external pump. When integrated with a SBE37 the SeaFET can perform real-time temperature and salinity corrections and log oxygen concentration among other SBE37 parameters.

The supplied *SeaFETCom* software provides easy set-up and configuration, graphical real-time data display for pre-deployment checks and interactive sampling, and data re-processing to improve accuracy using ancillary temperature and salinity measurements.



## Principle of Operation

The primary sensor element of SeaFET is an ion-sensitive field effect transistor (ISFET). This class of device has been used for pH sensing in industrial processes, food processing, clinical analysis and environmental monitoring. The advantages of the ISFET include robustness, stability and precision that make it suitable for ocean pH measurement at low pressure (T.R. Martz, J.G. Connery, K.S. Johnson. "Testing the Honeywell Durafet® for seawater pH applications". Limnology and Oceanography: Methods, 8:172-184, 2010)

SeaFET has two potentiometric cells, the *internal cell*, and the *external cell*. Both cells are immersed in the sensed medium. The names 'internal' and 'external' refer to the arrangement of the reference electrodes in each cell.

The internal cell consists of the ISFET as the *working electrode* and an Ag/AgCl electrode bathed in a saturated KCl solution/gel as the *internal reference electrode*. The internal reference electrode is bathed in a saturated KCl solution/gel so that the chloride concentration that the electrode 'sees' remains relatively constant. Note that Ag/AgCl electrodes exhibit primary sensitivity to chloride ions. The solution is in a compartment within the instrument; the connection to the sensed medium is through an annular frit which encircles the post. So again, 'internal' refers to the fact that the reference electrode is somewhat isolated from the sensed medium; its electrical potential is proportional to the concentration of chloride of the KCl gel, which is not expected to vary considerably. Note, however, that the liquid junction at the seawater/KCl interface generates an electrical potential because ions diffuse through the frit at different rates and that leads to a separation of charge. Unfortunately this potential is not measurable or knowable and will contribute to the uncertainty of the pH reading.

The external cell also consists of the ISFET as the working electrode. The potential of the external reference electrode is expected to vary with the chloride concentration of the sensed medium. In this sense, it is sometimes termed a *pseudo-reference electrode*. Ordinarily this would not be a good approach for measuring pH because the signal exhibited by the overall cell potential will be the sum of a chloride signal and a hydrogen/hydroxide ion signal (ISFET sensitive to  $H^+ / OH^-$ ). Notwithstanding, in seawater the chloride concentration can be approximated from salinity and the chloride signal estimated in order to retrieve hydrogen/hydroxide ion signal. The external reference electrode has been incorporated into the design because, among other considerations, it does not have a liquid junction potential. This results in a more accurate and stable reading provided that the chloride concentration of the sample can be accurately determined.

## pH Calculation

This section provides a brief description of how the SeaFET derives pH from the internal and external cells voltage readings, sample temperature, and sample salinity. More details can be found in the references here cited.

### pH From Internal (FET|INT) Cell

The FET|INT cell exhibits a Nernstian response to pH (Martz et al. 2010). Then:

$$pH_{int} = \frac{V_{FETINT} - k_{0i} - k_{2i} \cdot T}{S_{nernst}}$$

, where

$$S_{nernst} = \frac{R \cdot T \cdot \ln(10)}{F}$$

,where R is the universal gas constant (8.314472 J / ( K mol)), T is the temperature in K, and F is the Faraday constant (96485.3415 C/mol). The constants k0i and k2i are the cell standard potential offset and temperature slope respectively and are provided as part of the instrument calibration.

### pH From External (FET|EXT) Cell

The FET|EXT cell also exhibits a Nernstian response to pH but presents the added complexity of being sensitive to the chloride activity.

$$pH_{ext} = \frac{V_{FETEXT} - k_{0e} - k_{2e} \cdot T}{S_{nernst}} + \log(Cl_T) + 2 \cdot \log(\gamma_{HCl}) - \log\left(1 + \frac{S_T}{K_S}\right)$$

Hence the derivation of pH involves several steps to derive the chloride activity from the salinity. These are outlined below.

### Sample Ionic Strength

The sample ionic strength is calculated as (Dickson et al. 2007):

$$I = \frac{19.924 \cdot S}{1000 - 1.005 \cdot S}$$

where S is salinity (psu).

### Debye-Huckel constant for activity of HCl

This constant is calculated as (Khoo et al. 1977):

$$A_{DH} = 0.00000343 \cdot t^2 + 0.00067524 \cdot t + 0.49172143$$

where t is temperature in °C,

### Total chloride in seawater

Calculated as (Dickson et al. 2007):

$$Cl_T = \frac{0.99889}{35.453} \cdot \frac{S}{1.80655}$$

where S is salinity (psu).

### Logarithm of HCl activity coefficient

Calculated as (Khoo et al. 1977):

$$\log(y_{HCl}) = \frac{-A_{DH} \cdot \sqrt{I}}{1 + 1.394 \cdot \sqrt{I}} + (0.08885 - 0.000111 \cdot t) \cdot I$$

where ADH is the Debye-Huckel constant for activity of HCl, I is the ionic strength, and t is the temperature in °C,

### Acid dissociation constant of HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>

Calculated as (Dickson et al. 2007):

$$K_s = (1 - 0.001005 \cdot S) \cdot e^{\frac{-4276.1}{T} + 141.328 - 23.093 \cdot \ln(T) + (\frac{-13856}{T} + 324.57 - 47.986 \cdot \ln(T)) \cdot \sqrt{I} + (\frac{35474}{T} - 771.54 + 114.723 \cdot \ln(T)) \cdot I - (\frac{2698}{T}) \cdot I^{1.5} + (\frac{1776}{T}) \cdot I^2}$$

where S is salinity (psu), T is temperature (K), and I is the ionic strength.

### Total sulfate in seawater

Calculated as (Dickson et al. 2007):

$$S_T = \frac{0.1400}{96.062} \cdot \frac{S}{1.80655}$$

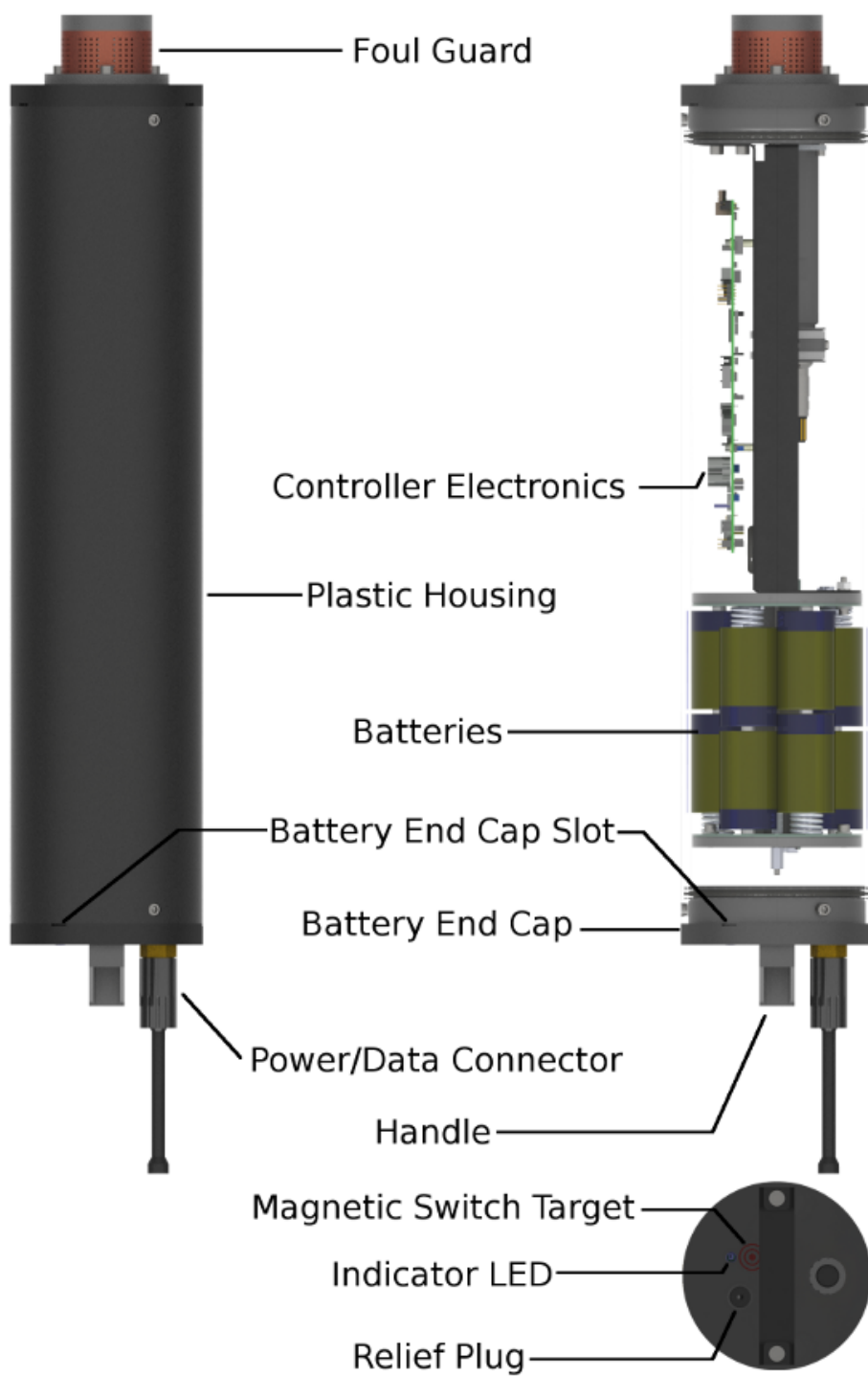
where S is salinity (psu).

## Major Components

SeaFET is encased in a cylindrical plastic housing that is robust and easy to handle. A removable battery/communications end cap is located on one end. A sensor cap is located on the other end. Both caps are secured with screws and sealed with O-rings.

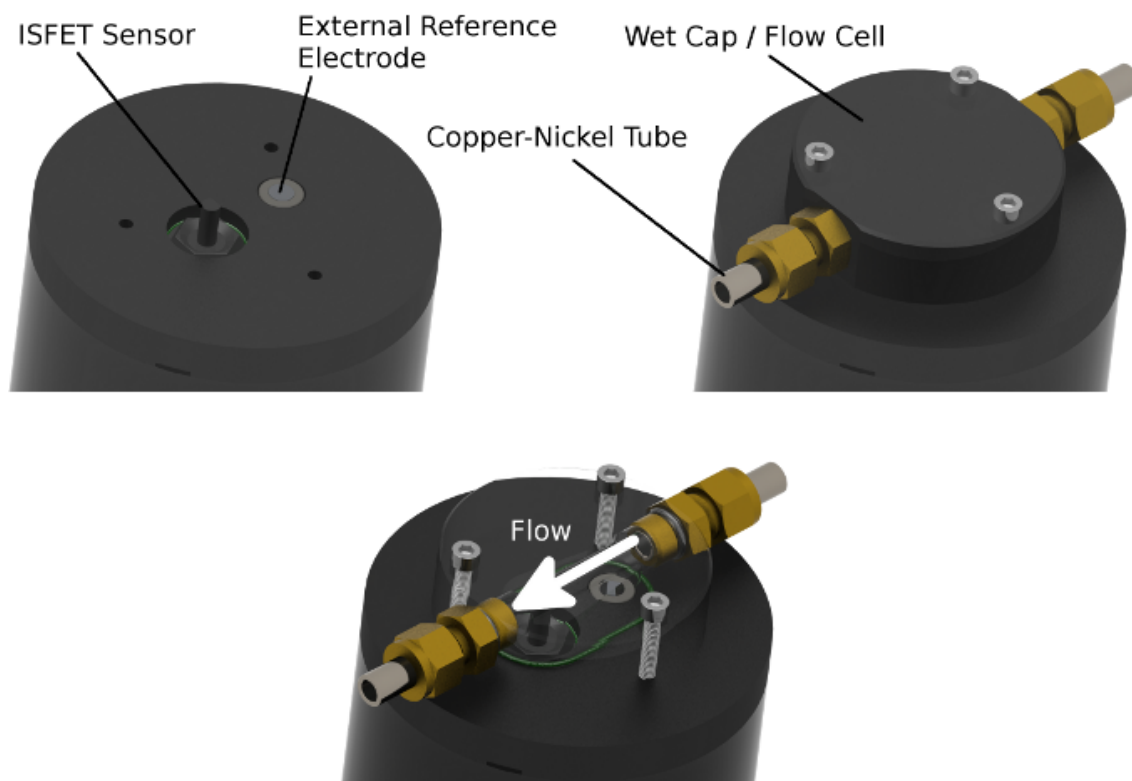
The battery end cap can be removed to replace the internal batteries. Refer to section [Battery Connection and Replacement](#) for detailed instructions. The battery end cap has a relief plug that is designed to release internal pressure in the unlikely event of an instrument flood or battery failure (see section Safety and Hazards ), and to ease end cap removal.

The battery end cap also houses an indicator LED, the magnetic switch sensor, and a fallback push-button (on the inside) that can be used in-lieu of the magnet in case the latter is not available and establishing connection to SeaFETCom is not an option.



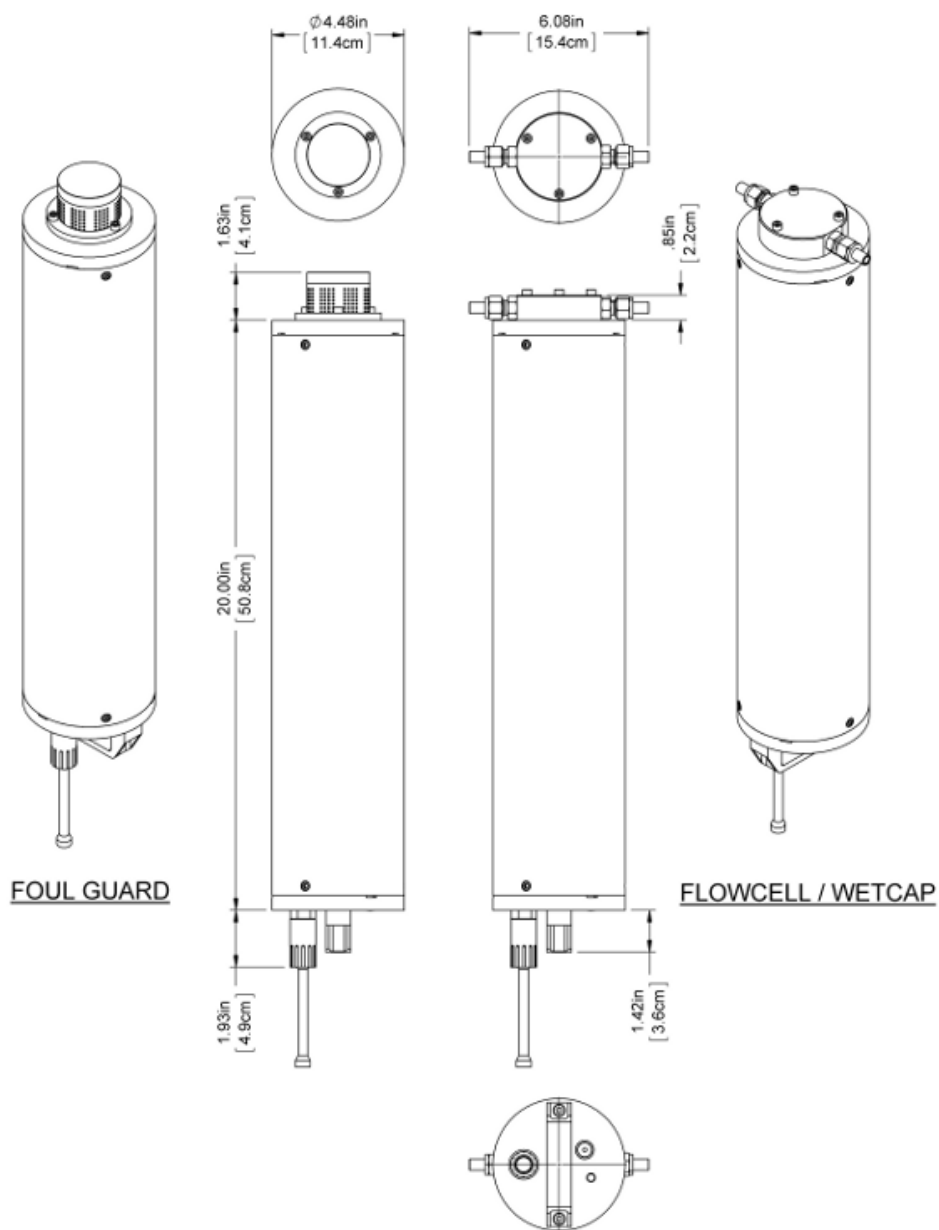
The sensor end cap is opposite the battery end cap. The sensor end cap exposes two sensors: the ISFET sensor and the external reference electrode.

Both sensors must be covered by a seawater-filled wet cap for shipping and storage. The wet cap doubles as a flow cell with inflow and outflow attachments for connection to a pumped sample supply. For fully immersed operation, the wet cap is replaced by a perforated copper anti-foul guard.





## Instrument Drawings



## External Interfaces

### Bulkhead Connector

A single underwater connectable SubConn® MCBH8M electrical connector on the sensor end cap combines power and data communications interfaces to the SeaFET. Power and data communications functions assigned to each of the eight pins are identified in the table below:



Pin	Name	Description
1	VIN	External DC Power Supply, 6 – 18 Vdc
2	V-/SG	Power Supply Return / Signal Ground
3	USB V+	USB 5V Power
4	CTD/PUMP V+	Optional CTD or Pump Power (12V 650mA)
5	TXD / D+	RS-232 Transmit / USB D+
6	RXD / D-	RS-232 Receive / USB D-
7	CTD TXD	Optional CTD RS-232 Transmit
8	CTD RXD	Optional CTD RS-232 Receive

### Indicator LED

The SeaFET is equipped with a bi-color indicator LED. The LED will flash with different patterns and colors to indicate a variety of situations:

Flashing pattern		Meaning
Green short blink	. . . . .	Starting continuous sampling mode / Sampling
Green long blink	- - - - -	Starting periodic mode
Green long and short blink	- . - . - . - .	Starting polled mode
Red long blink	- - -	Deactivating internal batteries

Note that the SeaFET will periodically flash the indicator green when acquiring data. This feature will work for the first 24 hours after the SeaFET is applied power (either from activating the internal batteries or from connecting a live power supply to VIN). After 24 hours the sampling indication will cease in order to preserve power. Notice that if the instrument is set in periodic or polled mode the sampling indication will only be shown during the sampling event as opposed to all the time.

### Magnetic Switch

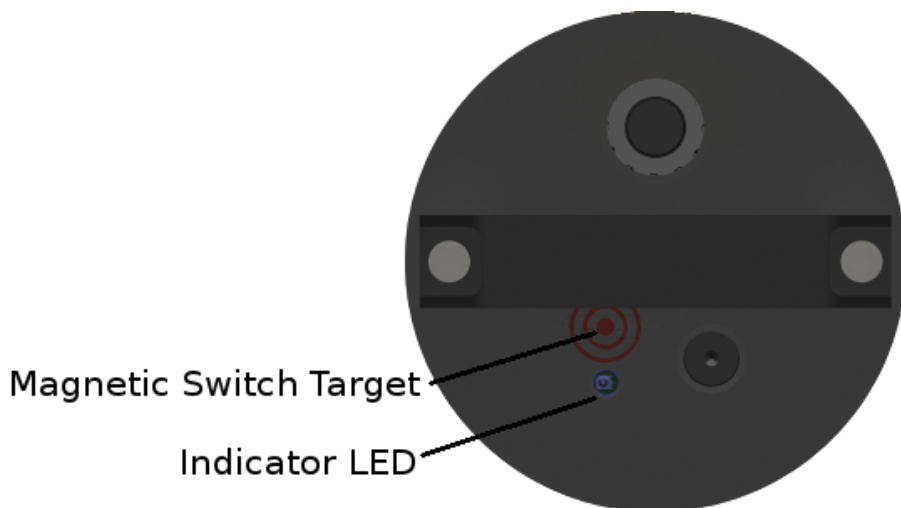
The SeaFET features a magnetic sensor that allows the user to activate or deactivate the internal batteries simply by approaching a magnet to the switch target. Note that the magnetic switch will only operate if the internal batteries are installed.

### **Activating the internal batteries**

Remember that the internal batteries need to be activated prior deployment. To activate the internal batteries approach the magnet to the target until the indicator LED starts flashing green. Remove the magnet as soon as you notice the green flashes.

### **Deactivating the internal batteries**

To deactivate the internal batteries approach the magnet to the target, leave it for a second and remove it. The indicator LED will flash red acknowledging the deactivation request and the batteries will next be deactivated. If the red flashes are not displayed repeat the operation. No power will be drawn from deactivated batteries.



## Power Supplies

The SeaFET operates from two distinct sources of power:

- Internal batteries
- External power input (VIN)

Understanding the purpose and function of each power source is fundamental for the successful operation of the instrument. An incorrect power setup could lead to invalid deployment data.

### Internal batteries

The SeaFET battery compartment holds 12 Alkaline D-Cell batteries. These are internally split into two packs:

- Main battery pack (12V nominal)
- Isolated battery pack (6V nominal)

The 'Main battery pack' is used to power the instrument control electronics when the instrument is in active mode while the 'Isolated battery pack' is used to power the sensing element when the instrument is in low power standby mode.

A distinctive characteristic of the SeaFET is that it requires an uninterrupted and isolated source of power to keep the sensing element conditioned. Note that re-conditioning of the sensing element due to loss of power could take up to 24 hours, hence the need for keeping it permanently powered during deployment. This power source also needs to be isolated from the system ground in order to achieve the desired noise performance. As explained before, this uninterrupted and isolated power is derived from the internal batteries. For this reason batteries must be installed and activated before deployment. The internal batteries can be activated from the SeaFETCom dashboard or by using the magnetic switch.



**WARNING:** Internal batteries **MUST** be installed and activated before deployment. Failure to do so will result in unusable data. Batteries can be activated from the SeaFETCom dashboard or by using the magnetic switch.

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### External power input (VIN)

Power can also be supplied through an external input (VIN, 6-18V). When the voltage level in this input is at or above 9V the instrument will draw power from it hence preserving battery power. Note that even if

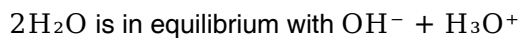
external power is applied throughout a deployment the instrument will still need the batteries in order to keep the sensing element powered during low power standby.

## Specifications

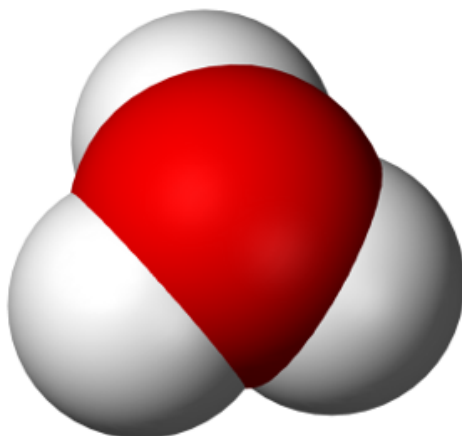
Measurement Range	6.5 to 9.0 pH
Initial Accuracy	0.05 pH
Precision	better than 0.001 pH (when averaging is applied)
Resolution	0.0001 pH
Stability	0.005 pH/month
Disk Size	4 GB (minimum)
Data Storage	Over 18 million samples. Approximately 85% of storage is available for sensor data. Remaining space is allowed for system log files and other uses. Estimate based on single file containing FULL ASCII frames
Sample Rate	10 Hz (max)
Internal Batteries	12 x 1.5V Alkaline D-Cells
External Supply	6 –18 VDC
Power Consumption	Operating: 340-400mW (from the external supply or main battery pack), 10uA (from the isolated battery pack) Standby: 70uA (from the external power supply or main battery pack), 1.1mA (from the isolated battery pack)
Communication	RS-232 @ 9.6 – 115.2 kbps USB @ 12Mbit/s
Real Time Clock Drift	2ppm (0 to 40°C)
Weight	5.4 kg (0.1 kg in water) including internal batteries
Maximum Depth	50 meters
Salinity Range	20 to 40 psu
Operating Temperature	0 to 50°C
Storage Temperature	2 to 55°C

## On The Cover

The SeaFETCom icon, also on the cover of this manual, is a representation of a hydronium ion. The presence of hydronium ions relative to hydroxide determines pH. Water molecules auto-dissociate into hydronium and hydroxide ions in the following equilibrium:



In pure water, the number of hydroxide ions is equal to the number of hydronium ions.



# Software

SeaFET comes complete with SeaFETCom, a graphical software application for configuring and controlling SeaFET, and for managing and processing data.

Topics in this chapter include:

- [SeaFETCom Overview](#)
- [Installing SeaFETCom](#)
- [Navigating SeaFETCom](#)
- [SeaFETCom Dashboard](#)
- [Connecting to SeaFET](#)
- [SeaFETCom Preferences](#)
- [Message Logging](#)

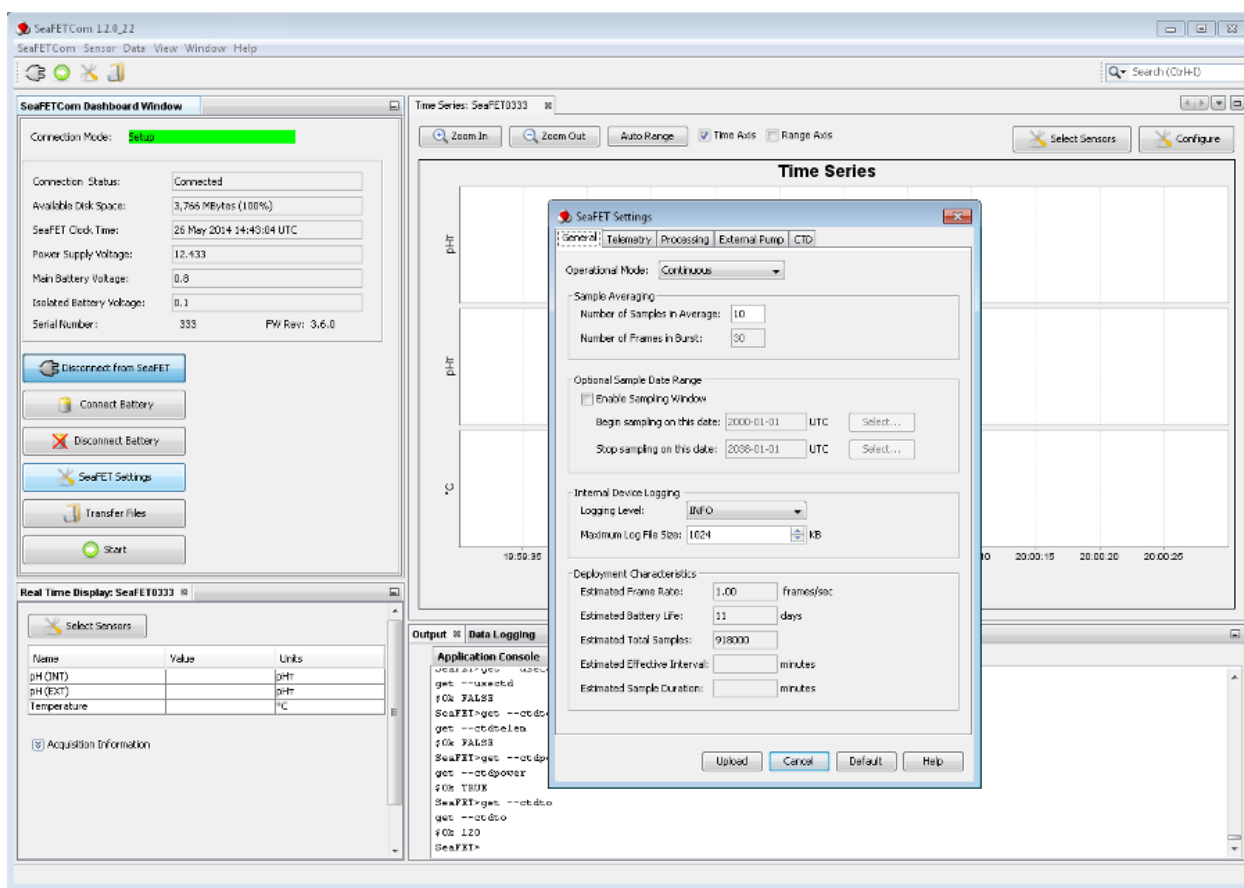


## SeaFETCom Overview

The Satlantic SeaFET Ocean pH Sensor comes complete with SeaFETCom, an interactive graphic software application. Connect the SeaFET to your computer via the supplied USB programming cable to enjoy these SeaFETCom features:

- Review and modify SeaFET operational settings
- Schedule SeaFET data collection activity
- Manage and retrieve logged SeaFET data
- View SeaFET data in real time
- Reprocess SeaFET data and graph results

SeaFETCom provides the tools necessary to configure and operate your SeaFET ph sensor for any deployment scenario. Manage on-board data storage, processing, and collection modes. Set up real time data streaming via USB or RS-232. Capture and plot data in real time for pre-deployment checks or interactive profiling casts. Re-process logged pH data using ancillary temperature and salinity inputs for improved accuracy.



## Installing SeaFETCom

For the latest SeaFETCom software updates, please visit <http://satlantic.com/seafetcom> .

### Installing SeaFETCom on Windows

Supported Microsoft Windows systems: XP/Vista/7/8, 32 bit or 64 bit.

Minimum recommended computer hardware:

- Processor: 2.6 GHz Intel Pentium IV or equivalent
- Memory: 2 GB
- Disk space: 1 GB of free disk space

To install the software, run the SeaFETCom self extracting installer program found on your SeaFET product CD-ROM or at <http://satlantic.com/seafetcom> . The installer is named in the form *SeaFETCom-<version>-b<build>-x86.exe* (e.g. SeaFETCom-1.1.2-b147-x86.exe).

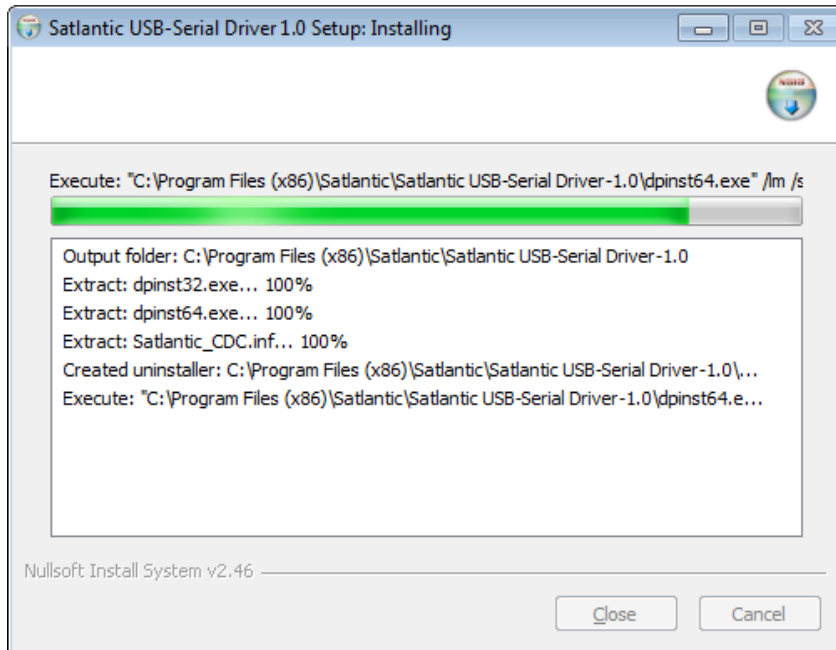
The installer program steps through the install process. The default option can be selected at each confirmation step.

### Installing Satlantic USB-Serial Driver on Windows 7 or Vista

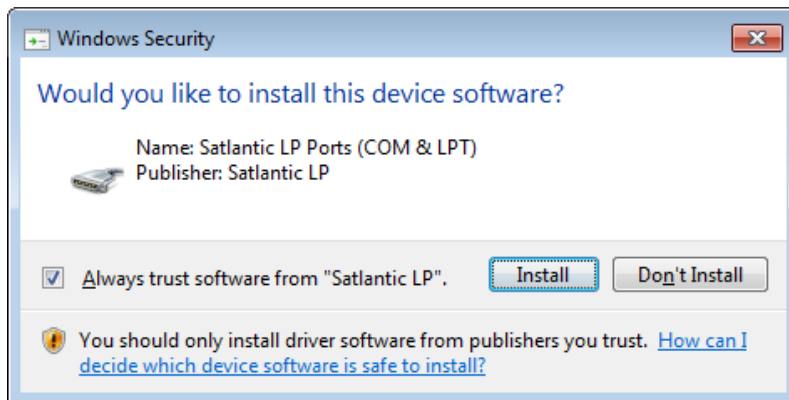
The last step in the installer is to install the *Satlantic USB-Serial Driver* . SeaFETCom requires this to be run at least once in order to connect to a SeaFET via a USB virtual serial port. On subsequent installs or upgrades, this step can be skipped.

**WARNING:** *SeaFET must not be attached to a USB port when the Satlantic USB-Serial Driver is being installed. If it is the USB-Serial driver will not function correctly resulting in communication failures.*

The installation of the Satlantic USB-Serial driver causes the following dialog to be displayed:



After the USB-Serial Driver Setup dialog appears, a Windows Security dialog requests confirmation before proceeding to install the driver:



Check the *Always trust software from "Satlantic LP"* option. Press the *Install* button to confirm trust in software provided by Satlantic and to complete the USB-Serial driver installation.

## Installing Satlantic USB-Serial Driver on Windows XP

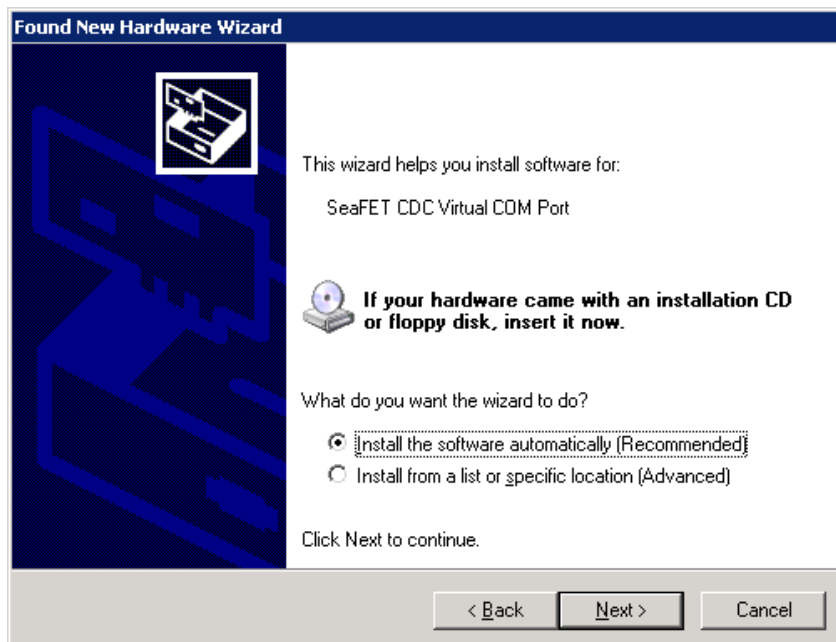
**CAUTION:** *The SeaFETCom program must not be running when completing the Satlantic USB-Serial Driver installation on Windows XP. If SeaFETCom is running while installing the USB-Serial driver on Windows XP, the driver installation will fail.*

After the driver installation steps are completed, and before SeaFETCom is run, the driver must be activated by connecting the SeaFET to one of the computer's available USB ports.

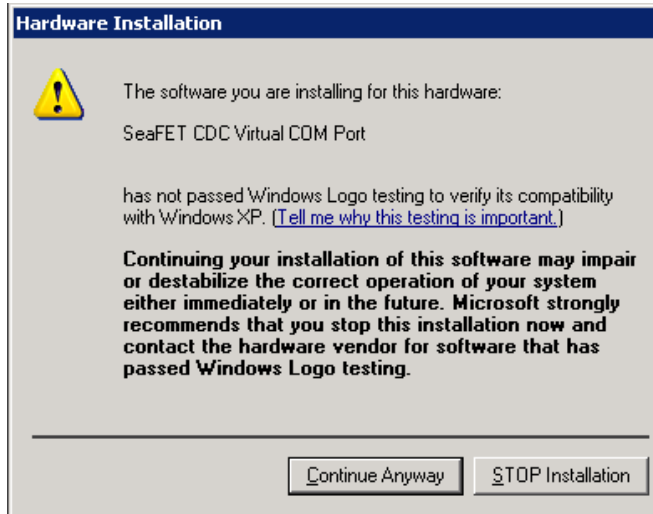
Connect the SeaFET to a USB port, then select the *No, not this time* and *Install the software automatically [Recommended]* options on the following *Found New Hardware Wizard* dialogs:



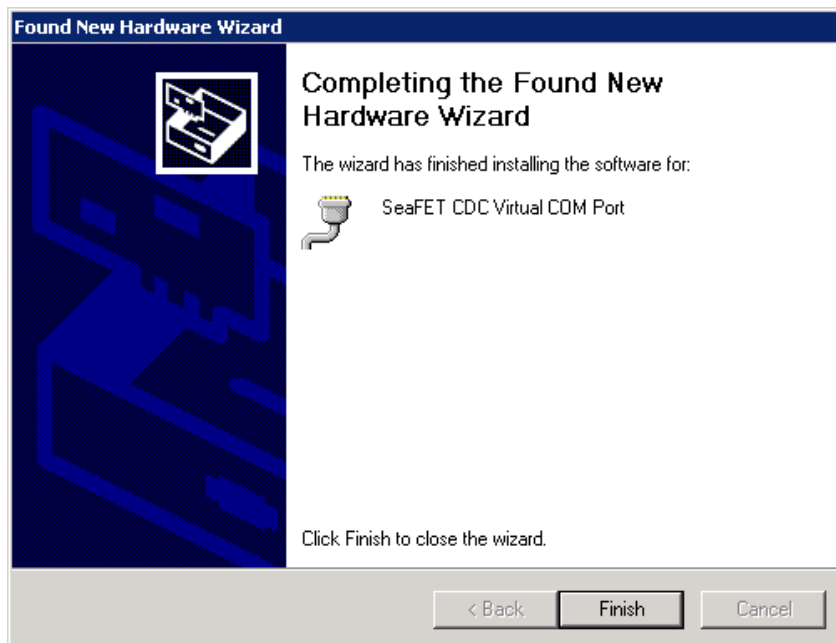
Press the *Next* button to proceed:



After the second dialog, another dialog is displayed to warn that the USB-Serial Driver publisher can't be verified. Select the *Continue Anyway* button to safely install the Satlantic USB-Serial Driver.



Press *Finish* button to exit the *Found New Hardware Wizard* :



## Installing SeaFETCom on Mac OS X

Prerequisites for running SeaFETCom on Mac:

- Intel-based Mac, iMac, MacBook, or Mac Mini running OS X 10.7 or newer.
- Java SE 6 for OS X installed and updated.
- User account installing and using SeaFETCom must have administrative privilege.

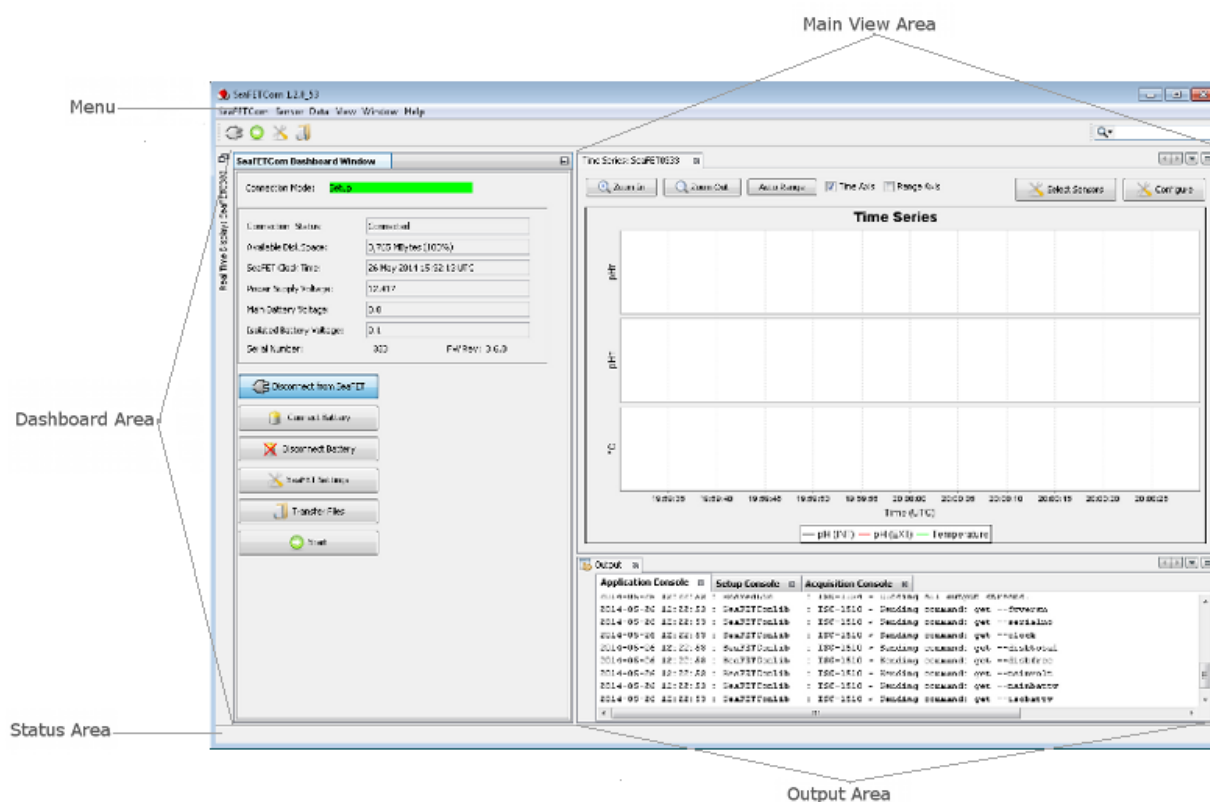
To install the software, run the SeaFETCom self extracting pkg file found on your SeaFET product CD-ROM or at <http://satlantic.com/seafetcom> . The installer is named in the form *SeaFETCom-<version>-b<build>-x86\_64.pkg* (e.g. SeaFETCom-1.1.2-b87-x86\_64.pkg).

The installer program steps through the install process. The default option can be selected at each confirmation step.

Please ensure that the default option of *Install for all users on this computer* is retained as the install location destination. If this option is changed to *Install for me only* or *Install on a specific disk* , the USB-serial driver configuration will prevent successful connection to SeaFET.

## Navigating SeaFETCom

SeaFETCom provides a **Menu** for navigating all available actions, and a flexible multiple-window interface for displaying key information relevant to the operating mode of the sensor and software. The **Dashboard Area** always displays the [Dashboard](#) for connecting to SeaFET. Other windows such as the [Data Processing Dashboard](#) can also reside in the dashboard area. The **Main View Area** is where larger windows such as the Time Series Graph and the [Processed pH Data Viewer](#) appear when acquiring or processing data. The **Output Area** mainly shows the Output window, which shows diagnostic console outputs from the connected SeaFET and the software application itself. A **Status Area** along the bottom of the main window shows information messages and progress reports as the software executes various actions.



## Menu

The following is a summary of all actions available on the SeaFETCom main menu:

**SeaFETCom** menu lists actions for setting software preferences.

**Preferences** - set [SeaFETCom Preferences](#) for display, serial connection, and data directory.

**Exit** - halt and exit SeaFETCom

**Sensor** menu lists actions for connecting to SeaFET and configuring it for operation:

**Connect/Disconnect** - initiates or terminates the connection to SeaFET. Same as the *Connect/Disconnect* button on the dashboard. See [Connecting to SeaFET](#) for more information.

**Start/Stop** - starts or stops [Real Time Data Acquisition](#) activities on SeaFET and real time display and logging of data by SeaFETCom. Same as the *Start/Stop* button on the dashboard. This item is only enabled when there is an active connection to SeaFET.

**SeaFET Settings** - shows the [SeaFET Settings](#) dialog for configuring the SeaFET. This item is only enabled when there is an active connection to SeaFET.

**Transfer Files** - shows the [Transfer Files](#) dialog for transferring files from the SeaFET to your computer. This item is only enabled when there is an active connection to SeaFET.

**Set Clock** - shows the [Set Clock](#) dialog to synchronize the SeaFET internal clock with the host computer clock. This item is only enabled when there is an active connection to SeaFET.

**Summary Report** - generates a PDF [Summary Report](#) of SeaFET settings and status. This item is only enabled when there is an active connection to SeaFET.

**Advanced** sub menu lists some less commonly used sensor actions:

**Command Terminal** - opens a input dialog to send firmware commands directly to the connected SeaFET. See [Command Reference](#) for more information.

**Data Log Headers** - open the *Data Log Headers* dialog to define ancillary information to be written the top of sensor data files logged in real time by SeaFETCom.

**Upload Firmware File** - update or restore the operating firmware on the connected SeaFET.

**Upload Coefficients** - allows the user to upload a calibration coefficients file to the SeaFET. See [Calibration](#) for more information.

**Disconnect for Storage** - allows the user to disconnect the internal batteries of the SeaFET to prepare it for storage or shipping. See [Storage and Shipping](#) for more information.

**Data** menu lists actions for reprocessing logged SeaFET sensor data:

**SeaFET Data Processing** - opens the [Data Processing](#) panel in the dashboard area.

**View** menu:

### Graphs

**Time Series Graph** shows the [Time Series Graph](#) for viewing acquired sensor data in real time.

**Processed pH Graph** shows the [Processed pH Graph](#) for viewing re-processed results.

**Output** menu actions show a specific tab in the *Output Window*.

**Setup Console** shows the *Setup Console* in the *Output Window*.



**Acquisition Console** shows the *Application Console* in the *Output Window* .

**Post-Processed Console** shows the *Post-Processed Console* in the *Output Window* .

**Application Console** shows the *Application Console* in the *Output Window* .

**Real Time Data** shows the [Real Time Display](#) window.

**Acquisition Monitor** shows data acquisition statistics in the [Data Acquisition Monitor](#) window

**Window** menu provides actions for resizing and relocating internal windows:

**Close Window** removes the selected window from view

**Close All Documents** closes all non-dashboard windows

**Configure Window** provides options for changing the selected window

**Reset Windows** returns all windows to their default location.

## Customizing SeaFETCom Layout

SeaFETCom provides a flexible multiple-window interface for customizing the layout of most components. Windows can be viewed, dragged, tabbed, docked, and stretched to best suit the job at hand within the available screen size.

To move a window to an alternate location:

1. Click and hold the top bar on the window.
2. Drag it within its own area, or to a different area.
3. Move the window around near the desired location until an orange rectangle frame appears.
4. If the orange rectangle fully covers an existing window, the dragged window will be tabbed within it.
5. If the orange rectangle partly covers an existing window, the existing window will be resized to make room for the dragged window to locate adjacent.
6. Release the mouse button to place the window in its new location.

To resize a window:

1. Roll the mouse pointer over an edge of the internal window until the pointer changes to a double-ended arrow.
2. Click, drag, and release to set the new window size

To undock a window:

1. Click and hold the top bar on the window.
2. Drag it outside the area of the main window.
3. Release to undock the window into its own main window.
4. Alternately, select Window->Dock Window on the menu.
5. Select Window->Dock Window on the menu to return the window to its internally docked location

## Output Window

SeaFETCom provides logging facilities that can be used to troubleshoot problems that may arise on the host computer or on SeaFET. While the application is running there are three logging consoles that reside in the *Output* window:



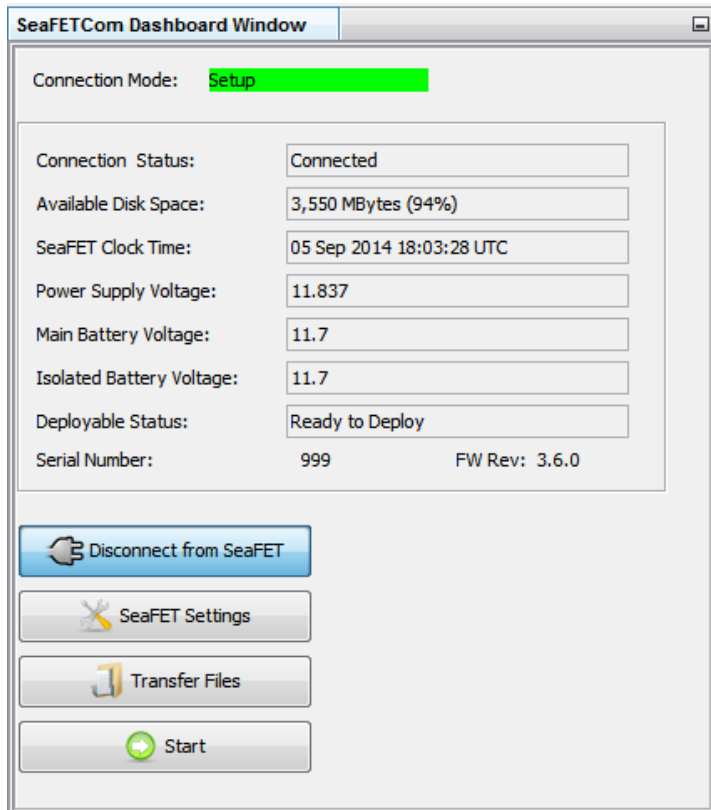
**Application Console** displays a log of all the actions performed by the SeaFETCom application. It also records any errors or warnings that may occur while communicating with SeaFET. It also displays all output from SeaFET when in *Setup* mode (see below). All Application Console messages are logged to a local file as described in the [Message Logging](#) section.

**Setup Console** displays all output generated by SeaFET as it executes commands in *Setup* mode.

**Acquisition Console** shows the sensor data as it is transmitted by SeaFET while in *Acquisition Mode*. The Acquisition Console does not log acquired sensor data directly. See

## Dashboard

The SeaFETCom dashboard displays SeaFET connection status and provides actions for managing SeaFET. The top section of the dashboard shows whether a SeaFET is connected and, if connected, some key SeaFET status information. The info fields are populated when the SeaFET is attached and communication has been established.



**Connection Mode** displays the current mode of SeaFETCom operation relative to connection with SeaFET:

- *Disconnected* : No active connection to SeaFET. Indicated by a red background.
- *Transition* : SeaFETCom is attempting to command SeaFET to transition to *Setup* mode. Indicated by a yellow background
- *Setup* : SeaFET is idle, awaiting commands from SeaFETCom. Indicated by a green background.
- *Acquisition* : SeaFET is acquiring data in either *Continuous* or *Periodic* acquisition mode. Indicated by a green background.

**Connection Status** indicates if the software is *Connected* or *Disconnected* to the local serial communications port . The *Connected* status does not necessarily imply connection to SeaFET itself.

The following fields display status information retrieved from the SeaFET to which SeaFETCom is connected. These fields are empty if there is no connection to SeaFET.

**Available Disk Space** displays the number of gigabytes and overall percentage space remaining on the internal storage device of the SeaFET to which SeaFETCom is connected. The percentage of space available on the device will always be less than 100%, due to system files such as firmware and configuration.

**SeaFET Clock Time** shows the time reported by SeaFET's internal clock. The internal clock is always set to the Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) time zone. The dashboard will display this clock time in the local time zone of the host computer when the *Use UTC Time* option in the [SeaFETCom Preferences](#) is not selected.

**Power Supply Voltage** displays either the internal battery or external power supply voltage, whichever is greater, reported by the connected SeaFET.

**Main Battery Voltage** displays the voltage of the Main battery back as reported by the connected SeaFET.

**Isolated Battery Voltage** displays the voltage of the Isolated battery back as reported by the connected SeaFET.

**Deployable Status** displays if the connected SeaFET is ready to deploy.

**Serial Number** identifies the connected SeaFET.

**FW Rev** reports the version number of the firmware running on the connected SeaFET

The four buttons below the sensor information fields perform the following actions:

- [Connect/Disconnect](#) - Connects and disconnects to a the SeaFET Sensor
- [SeaFET Settings](#) - Change SeaFET settings.
- [Transfer Files](#) - Manage data and message log files on the SeaFET.
- [Start/Stop](#) - Start and stop a data acquisition.

## Connection to SeaFET

SeaFET has two main connection modes: *Setup* and *Acquisition*. Within each of these modes, the functions available in SeaFETCom are different. Below is a summary of connection and transition modes and available functions.

### Setup Mode

*Setup* mode is the administrative mode for the SeaFETCom application.

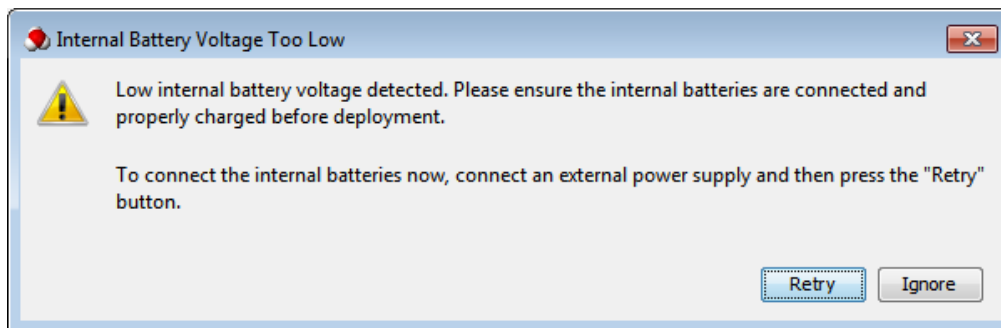
When the USB cable is plugged into the USB port on the host computer, SeaFET will be powered via USB if main power (ie. internal battery) is not connected.

The SeaFETCom *Connect* button is used to connect to SeaFET and enter *Setup* mode.

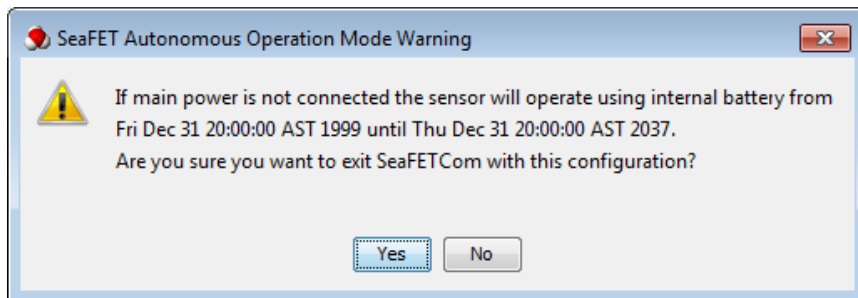
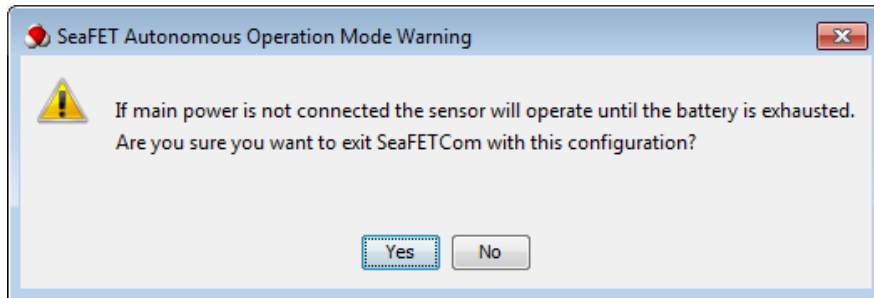
The length of time it takes for SeaFET to respond depends on the current state of SeaFET:

- If SeaFET was not connected to main power before connecting the USB cable, it will take 3-5 seconds for SeaFET to initialize and connect.
- If SeaFET is already connected to main power and initialized, the connection will be established within 2-3 seconds.

After connecting to a SeaFET it enters Setup mode and SeaFETCom check the main and isolated battery voltages to determine if either is lower than their respective limit (8.0v and 4.0v) acceptable for deployment. The SeaFET may also have not been able to activate its internal batteries when connected via USB without being connected to an external power supply. In either case the Internal Battery Voltage Too Low dialog is shown. This dialog provides the user with the opportunity to connect an external power supply and then activate the internal battery by selecting the "Retry" button. If the "Ignore" button is selected the user can proceed without activating the internal battery.



If SeaFETCom is exited when in *Setup* mode and SeaFET is in either *Continuous* or *Periodic* operational mode, one of the following dialogs will request confirmation before leaving SeaFET in an autonomous operation mode:



## Acquisition Mode

Once in *Setup* mode, SeaFETCom can be used to start a data acquisition by pressing the *Start* button on the main dashboard. This function causes the connected SeaFET to leave Setup mode and start sending data. In Acquisition Mode, incoming data can be viewed graphically and logged.

## Disconnected State

*Disconnected* state is not a mode like Setup Mode or Acquisition Mode, Disconnected state indicates SeaFETCom has not established a connection to the sensor. Only those functions that can be performed offline are available in SeaFETCom in Disconnected state. Instead of loading information from the SeaFET, these operations occur on the local file system resources.

## Transition State

*Transition* state indicates that SeaFET is currently not responsive because it is switching its internal operating mode. If *Transition* state persists for more than a minute, it likely indicates a communication problem.

## Important Note: Disconnecting USB

When the USB cable is removed and main power (ie. internal battery) is connected, SeaFET will remain in the mode that it was last in.

## SeaFETCom Preferences

To review and modify software preferences for serial ports and USB virtual serial ports, select the *General* tab and refer to the following *SeaFET Connection Settings*:

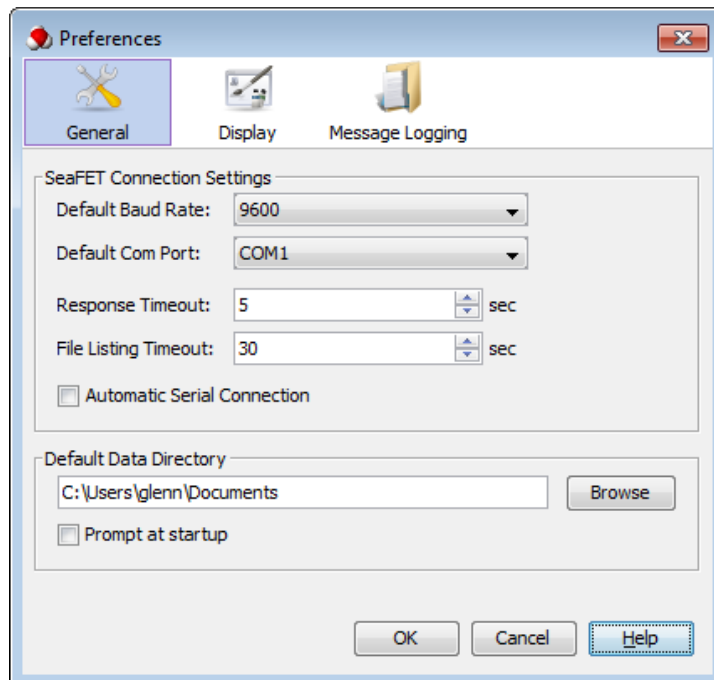
**Default Baud Rate** indicates the initial Baud rate that the SeaFETCom connect dialog will display when attempting to establish a connection. To change the default Baud rate, select a different rate from the drop-down list.

**Default Com Port** indicates the initial serial communications port that the SeaFETCom connect dialog will display when attempting to establish a connection. To change the default com port, select a different serial port name from the drop-down list.

**Response Timeout** indicates the number of seconds that SeaFETCom will wait for a response from SeaFET. This timeout is used for establishing a serial connection and for most SeaFET commands. Try increasing this timeout if SeaFETCom is unable to communicate with SeaFET.

**File Listing Timeout** indicates the amount of time that the SeaFETCom File Manager will wait for a response from SeaFET when requesting a listing of the files on the internal storage device. Try increasing this value if *File Manager* is unable to list SeaFET data files.

**Automatic Serial Connection** indicates whether SeaFETCom will automatically connect with the default values, both at program start, and when the *Connect* button is pressed on the dashboard.



## Data Directory Preferences

To set software preferences for file storage location on the host computer, select the *General* tab and refer to the *Data Directory* preferences:

**Default Data Directory** indicates the file system folder to which SeaFETCom will write all data log files and event files. Press the *Browse* button to select an alternate directory path, or type/paste a path directly in the input box.

**Prompt at startup** indicated whether or not SeaFETCom will prompt you to review and possibly change the default data directory each time the application starts. This option is useful if there are multiple SeaFET's being used on one computer.

## Display Preferences

To review and modify software display preferences, select the *General* tab and refer to these input fields:

**Sensor Value Decimal Places** shows the number of decimal places used to display sensor values in the Real Time Display window. To adjust the displayed precision, type a new number or press the up/down arrow buttons.

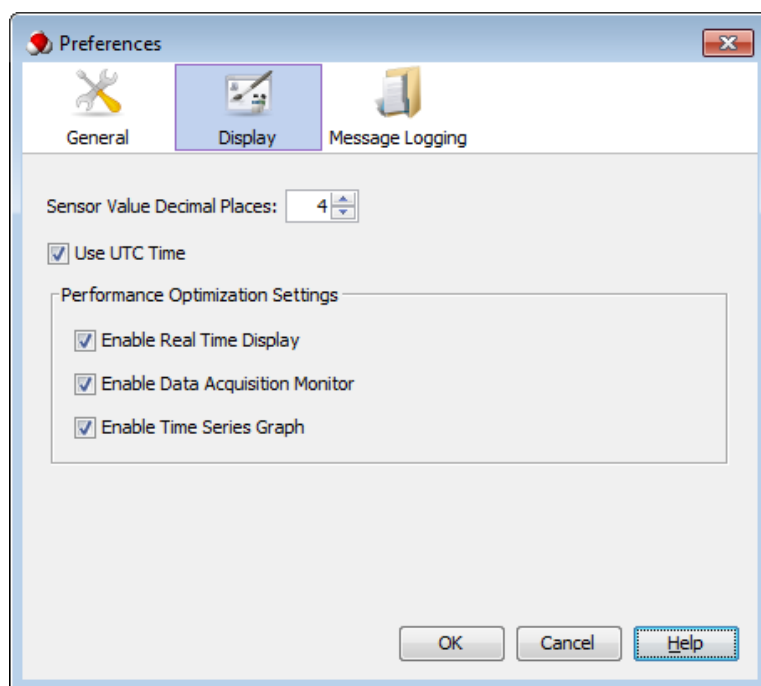
**Use UTC Time** indicates whether time values displayed by SeaFET com are shown in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) or the local time zone of the host computer. Click the checkbox to toggle between UTC or the computer's Time Zone for all time values displayed in SeaFETCom.

**Enable Real Time Display** is used to enable or disable the *Real Time Display* window that shows the latest acquired sensor data in numeric form. This control does not affect the real time display of the *Time Series Graph* . Disable the *Real Time Display* to improve performance on a slow computer.

**Enable Data Acquisition Monitor** indicates whether the Data Acquisition Monitor window is active. Click the checkbox to enable or disable the *Data Acquisition Monitor* . Disable the *Data Acquisition Monitor* to improve performance on a slow computer.

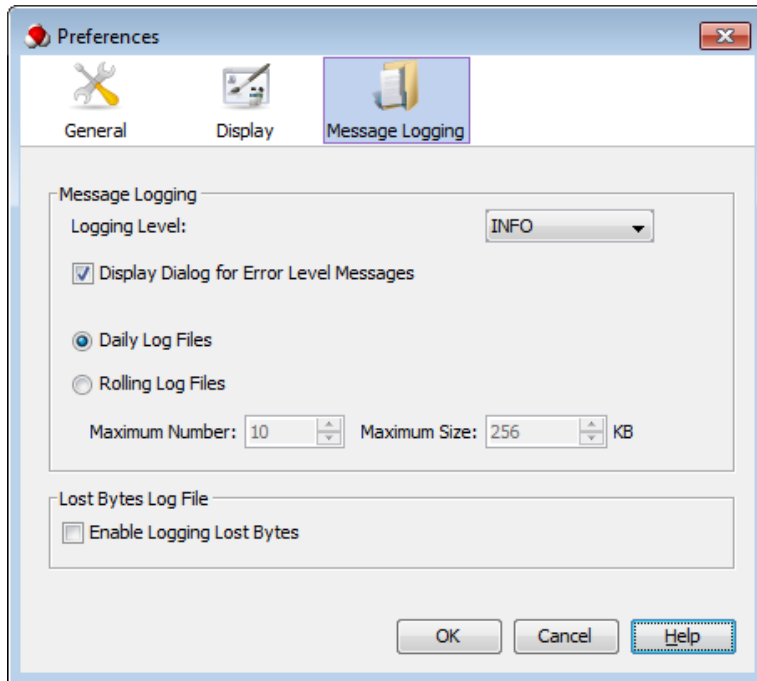
**Enable Time Series Graph** indicates whether the *Time Series Graph* is enabled or disabled. Click the checkbox to enable or disable the *Time Series Graph* . Disable the *Time Series Graph* to improve performance on a slow computer.





## Message Logging

The *Message Logging* panel allows for configuration of the way SeaFETCom writes errors, warnings information, and diagnostics messages to files. Logging can be set to a range of verbosity levels. The application message log files generated by SeaFETCom are crucial for diagnosing problems.



**Logging Level** allows you to select the sensitivity of the SeaFETCom application logs. The following logging levels can be selected. All logging levels are cumulative, (i.e. INFO level also logs WARN and ERROR)

- **TRACE** - Most verbose level of logging. It generates very large log files. It should only be used by Satlantic support staff for troubleshooting.
- **DEBUG** - Moderately verbose logging of debug messages. It is mainly used by Satlantic support staff for troubleshooting.
- **INFO** - Typical log level for normal operation. It logs all high level operations.
- **WARN** - Only logs warnings that occur in the application. It does not record INFO log messages.
- **ERROR** - Only logs errors. Errors typically require investigation and intervention.

**Display Dialog for Error level Messages** shows a pop-up alert whenever an ERROR or SEVERE message is logged. This ensures that application errors requiring investigation and intervention are not missed.

**Daily Log Files** causes a new message log file to be created each day.

**Rolling Log Files** retains only a *Maximum Number* of message log files, each no larger than *Maximum Size*.

**Enable Logging Lost Bytes** can assist in problem diagnosis by logging extraneous bytes or incomplete data frames, which are otherwise normally discarded.

# Settings

Topics in this chapter include:

- [SeaFET Settings](#)
- [Telemetry Settings](#)
- [Processing Settings](#)
- [Setting the Clock](#)
- [Summary Report](#)

# SeaFET Settings

## Operational Mode Settings

SeaFETCom can be used to configure the following operating modes *Continuous* , *Periodic* , and *Polled* . *Polled* and *Periodic* operating modes are most convenient for power-limited applications e.g. when SeaFET is powered by the internal battery and/or an auxiliary external battery. *Polled* mode is used when SeaFET is integrated with an external master controller capable of requesting data. *Periodic* mode is ideal for autonomous operation.

- In **Continuous mode** , SeaFET makes measurements continuously as specified by the current sampling settings, such as sampling average size and frame type. SeaFET does not sleep or stop measuring until it is commanded to return Setup mode, or power is exhausted.
- In **Periodic mode** , SeaFET autonomously makes a set of measurements as specified by the sampling parameters such as average size, burst size, and frame type at a specified sampling interval. In between sampling events, SeaFET goes to sleep.
- In **Polled mode** , SeaFET remains in low power sleep state until woken by an external command to make a measurement. After the measurement is complete and data sent/logged, SeaFET returns to low power sleep and does not sample again until another command is received.

The *General* settings tab will change to reflect the applicable settings for the selected operational mode.

The screenshot shows the 'SeaFET Settings' dialog box with the 'General' tab selected. The 'Operational Mode' is set to 'Continuous'. Under 'Sample Averaging', 'Number of Samples in Average' is 1 and 'Number of Frames in Burst' is 30. The 'Optional Sample Date Range' section has 'Enable Sampling Window' unchecked, with 'Begin sampling on this date' set to 2000-01-01 UTC and 'Stop sampling on this date' set to 2038-01-01 UTC. Under 'Internal Device Logging', 'Logging Level' is set to 'WARN' and 'Maximum Log File Size' is 1024 KB. The 'Deployment Characteristics' section shows 'Estimated Frame Rate' at 10.00 frames/sec, 'Estimated Battery Life' at 11 days, 'Estimated Total Samples' at 9180000, and empty fields for 'Estimated Effective Interval' and 'Estimated Sample Duration' in minutes. At the bottom are 'Upload', 'Cancel', 'Default', and 'Help' buttons.

Section	Parameter	Value	Unit
Operational Mode	Operational Mode	Continuous	
	Number of Samples in Average	1	
Sample Averaging	Number of Frames in Burst	30	
	Enable Sampling Window	Unchecked	
Optional Sample Date Range	Begin sampling on this date	2000-01-01	UTC
	Stop sampling on this date	2038-01-01	UTC
Internal Device Logging	Logging Level	WARN	
	Maximum Log File Size	1024	KB
Deployment Characteristics	Estimated Frame Rate	10.00	frames/sec
	Estimated Battery Life	11	days
	Estimated Total Samples	9180000	
	Estimated Effective Interval		minutes
	Estimated Sample Duration		minutes

## Continuous Mode Settings

Most of the following settings are used when SeaFET is in *Continuous* operational mode. In this mode, a stream of data frames is output continuously until main power is disconnected or SeaFET receives a "\$" command to enter Setup mode.

### Sample Averaging

#### Number of Samples in Average

Specifies the number of pH measurements to average for the output data frame. Raw data is averaged before calculating the pH values. In some environments, increasing this value can reduce noise and produce more consistent measurements. Note that the data frame rate is affected by sample averaging.

#### Number of Frames in Burst

Specifies the number of data frames in a burst of data frames.

**Note:** This setting is only used when SeaFET is in either Periodic or Polled operational mode.

## Optional Sample Date Range

**Note:** These settings are only used when SeaFET is in either Continuous or Periodic operational mode.

## Enable Sampling Window

When this option is enabled the sampling window date range settings are used to restrict when sampling can occur.

## Begin sampling on this date

The date after which sampling can occur. This date is for the UTC time zone and the display format is YYYY-MM-DD.

## Stop sampling on this date

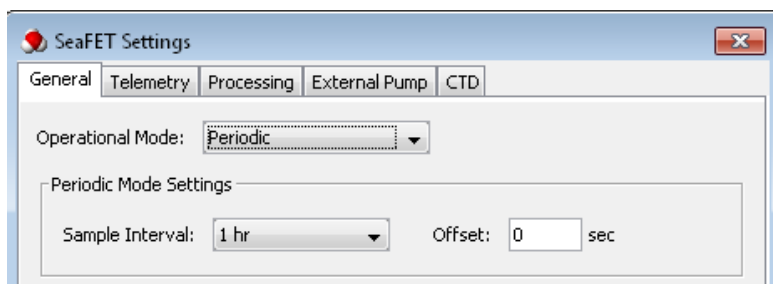
The date after which sampling can not occur. This date is for the UTC time zone and the display format is YYYY-MM-DD.

## Polled Mode Settings

The above settings are also applicable for Polled mode except for the **Optional Sample Data Range** settings.

## Periodic Mode Settings

The Periodic Mode Settings will appear in the General settings tab when Periodic operational mode is selected.



The following settings are applicable only to the Periodic mode.

## Sample Interval

This setting controls the timing between collection events. For example the value "1 hr" indicates that an acquisition event occurs once every hour.

## **Offset**

An offset (in seconds) is applied before each sample interval, thus delaying the start of each collection event.

## **Understanding the Periodic Mode**

The periodic mode equally divides the 24 hour day into intervals defined by the "Sample Interval". For instance, "6 hr" will result in a total of four intervals each six hours long, starting at 00:00 hr, 06:00 hr, 12:00 hr, and 18:00 hr.

To delay the sample interval start time the "offset" can be used. An offset of 300 seconds (5 minutes) will change our example interval start times to 00:05 hr, 06:05 hr, 12:05 hr, and 18:05 hr.

Within those intervals there is an acquisition duration defined by either the number of frames or the duration per acquisition period. Each of these acquisition periods should be less than the sample interval. This can not strictly be enforced for frame based samples because the rate is affected by the properties of the measurement sample and system settings.

## **Internal Device Logging**

SeaFET maintains a system log file that can be downloaded using the SeaFETCom file transfer dialog. The SeaFET log file (MESSAGES.LOG) will increase in size until it hits the maximum log size. Once this occurs it will be backed up to a second log file, overwriting the previous backup file (MSG\_OLD.LOG).

## **Logging Level**

Select the verbosity of the internal SeaFET system logs:

- **DEBUG** - High level log logging detailed, mainly used by support for troubleshooting problems.
- **INFO** - Typical log level for deployment, contains logs for all high level operations.
- **WARN** - Only logs warnings that occur in system, suitable for long deployments
- **ERROR** - Only logs errors, typically errors require investigation and user intervention.

All log levels are cumulative, i.e., INFO level also includes WARN and ERROR messages.

## **Maximum Log File Size**

The maximum size of each system log file internally logged by the SeaFET, since there is at most two system log files the max size allocated for internal logging is 2x (Maximum Log Size).



## Deployment Characteristics

The *Deployment Characteristics* panel displays estimated values that are helpful when configuring SeaFET for deployment.

### Estimated Frame Rate

Displays the estimated frame rate of the instrument. The frame rate is dependent on the *Number of Samples in Average* setting.

### Estimated Battery Life

Displays the estimated battery life in days for the instrument. The battery life is dependent on the nominal battery capacity and the number of sampling events and the duration of each event. The number of sampling events is dependent on the *Operational Mode* setting (ie. Continuous or Periodic). For Periodic Operational Mode the number of sampling events is the **Estimated Effective Interval** and the duration of each event is the **Estimated Sample Duration**.

### Estimated Deployment Samples

Displays the estimated number of samples that will be logged during deployment of the instrument. The deployment samples is dependent on the estimated frame rate, the number of sampling events and the duration of each sampling event.

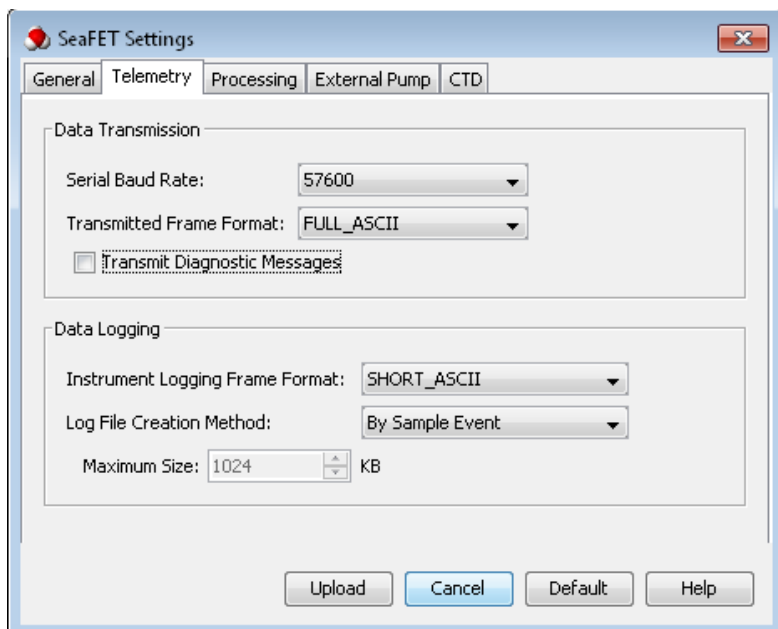
### Estimated Effective Interval

Displays the estimated effective sample interval in minutes for Periodic Operational Mode. The effective sample interval is based on the *Sample Interval* setting except when the estimated sample duration exceeds the selected Sample Interval.

### Estimated Sample Duration

Displays the estimated sample duration in minutes for Periodic Operational Mode. The sample duration is based on the *Number of Samples in Average* and the Number of *Frames in Burst* settings.

## Telemetry Settings



### Data Transmission Settings

**Serial Baud Rate** setting configures the transmission rate of the SeaFET RS-232 interface. Possible baud rates include

- 9600
- 19200
- 38400
- 57600
- 115200

**Transmitted Frame Format** sets the data format transmitted by SeaFET in real time:

1. **FULL\_ASCII** : Configures SeaFET to transmit full ASCII data frames over the USB and RS-232 interfaces when acquiring data. See [Data Formats Reference](#) for a description of the long ASCII frame. FULL\_ASCII is the default SeaFET data transmission setting.
2. **SHORT\_ASCII**: Configures SeaFET to transmit short ASCII data frames through its USB and RS-232 interfaces when acquiring data. See [Data Formats Reference](#) for a description of the short ASCII frame.
3. **NONE** : Turns off real-time SeaFET data transmission. SeaFET will not transmit data through its USB or RS-232 interfaces when acquiring data.

br> **Transmit Diagnostic Messages** causes SeaFET to transmit diagnostic messages on the USB and RS-232 interfaces. The Logging Level option in the SeaFET Settings dialog sets the level of information transmitted in the diagnostic messages. Use this option only when diagnosing a problem. It must be turned off during normal operation.

**Instrument Logging Frame Format** sets the data format to be recorded internally by SeaFET:

1. **FULL\_ASCII** : Configures SeaFET to record full ASCII data frames on internal storage. See [Data Formats Reference](#) for a description of the long ASCII frame . FULL\_ASCII is the default SeaFET data transmission setting.
2. **SHORT\_ASCII**: Configures SeaFET to record short ASCII data frames on internal storage. See [Data Formats Reference](#) for a description of the short ASCII frame .
3. **NONE** : Turns off SeaFET data logging. SeaFET will not record measurement data on internal storage.

**Log File Creation Method** determines when SeaFET creates a new file for logging data internally

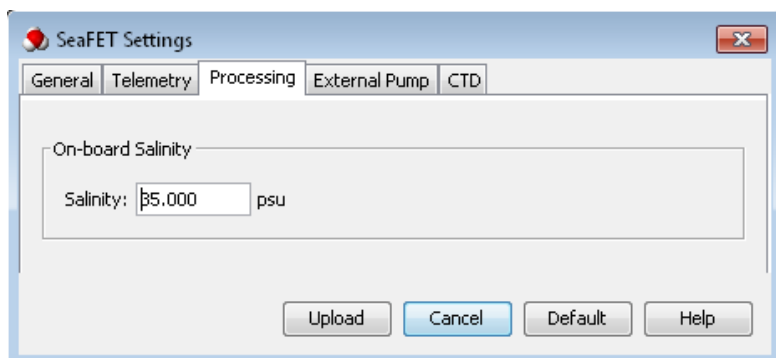
- **Daily** : a new file is created each day at 00:00:00 UTC.
- **By Sample Event** : a new file is created for each new data acquisition (sampling) event. This is useful for creating a separate file for each profile when in profiling mode.
- **By File Size** : a new file is created when the current file reaches the specified *Maximum Size* .

**Maximum Size** in KB (kilo bytes) that the active SeaFET internal data log file is allowed to reach before a new one is created. This only applies when the *Log File Creation Method* is set to **By File Size** .

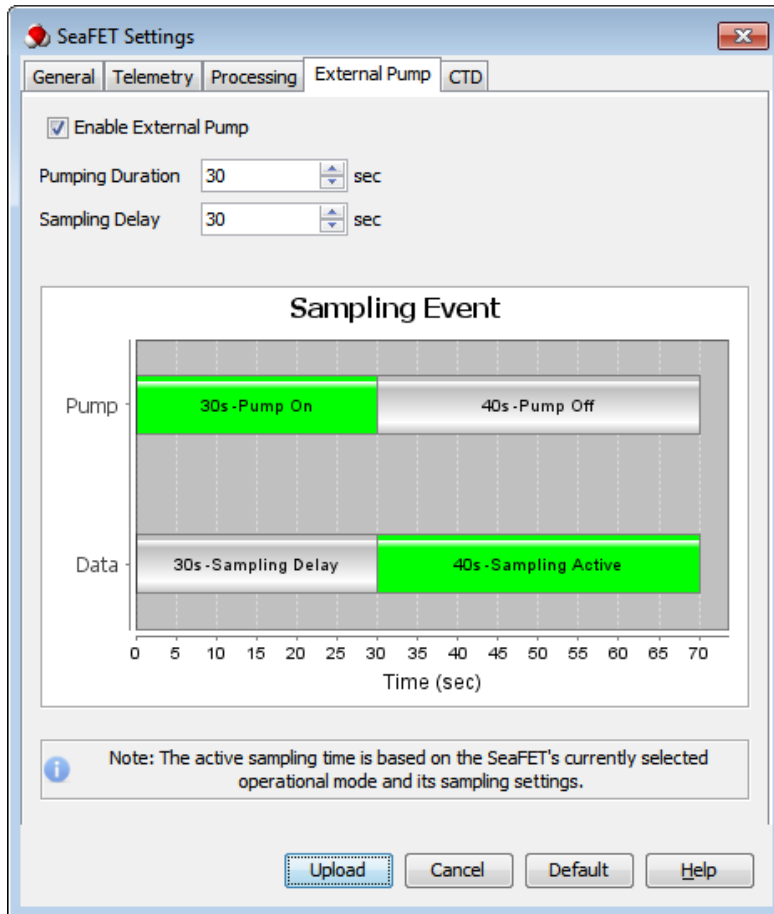
## Processing Settings

For every measurement frame logged and transmitted, SeaFET calculates pH values for internal and external sensors. To calculate pH, SeaFET applies factory calibration coefficients, temperature from the on-board thermistor, and a user configurable salinity value that roughly approximates the salinity of the water being sampled.

To adjust the salinity value used for on-board pH calculation, select the *Processing* tab of the *SeaFET Settings* dialog. Type the desired ambient salinity value and press *Upload* to pass it to SeaFET.



## External Pump Settings



**Enable External Pump** setting enables or disables use of an external pump by the SeaFET

**Pumping Duration** is the time in seconds that the external pump is on. *Note: When the external pump is setup to be on during sampling it will remain on until sampling has completed.*

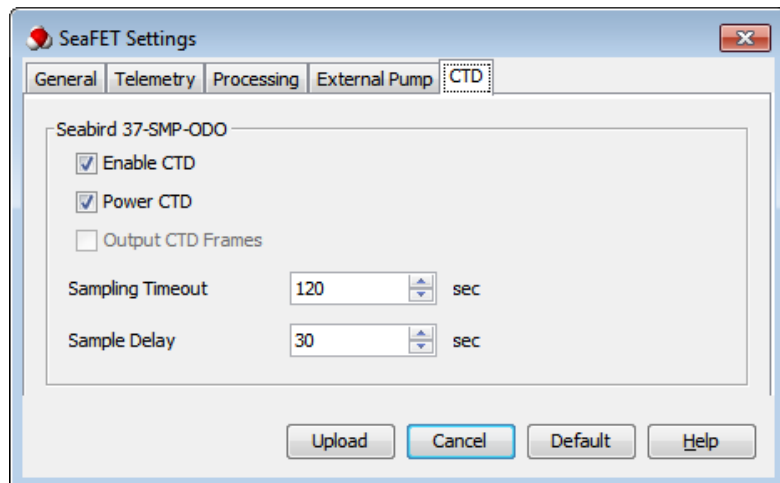
**Sampling Delay** is the time in seconds between when an acquisition event starts and when data sampling starts. By setting the sampling delay greater than the pump duration SeaFET will pump, wait, and then sample with the pump off.

The **Sampling Event** graph has two horizontal bars:

- **Pump** to show when the external pump is turned on and off for each sampling event
- **Data** to show when data sampling starts and stops for each sampling event

*Note: A hint is displayed when the mouse cursor is placed over each section of a bar.*

## CTD Settings



### Seabird 37-SMP-ODO Settings

These settings are used by the SeaFET to control an integrated Seabird 37-SMP-ODO CTD.

**Enable CTD** setting enables or disables use of the CTD by the SeaFET

**Power CTD** setting enables or disables supplying power to the CTD by the SeaFET.

**Output CTD Frames** setting enables or disables transmission of data frames from the CTD by the SeaFET.

**Sampling Timeout** is the maximum time (seconds) that the SeaFET will wait to receive a data frame requested from the CTD.

**Sample Delay** is the time (seconds) that the SeaFET delays ISFET parameters sampling (pH, ISFET T, etc.) after a sampling event begins. This feature can be used to allow for the measurements to stabilize after the CTD pumps a fresh volume of water and before the SeaFET starts data recording and streaming. Note: This setting is ignored in Continuous mode and when use of an External Pump is enabled.

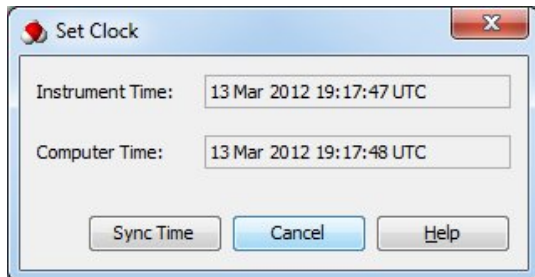
## Setting the Clock

SeaFET has an internal clock. SeaFET uses its internal clock to apply date/time stamps to logged data, and to schedule sensor activity. The internal clock can drift over time. The internal clock should be synchronized with a reliable time source.

To synchronize the SeaFET clock with a computer:

1. Run SeaFETCom and connect to SeaFET (see [Connecting to SeaFET](#) ).
2. Select *Sensor -> Set Clock* from the main menu.
3. Press the *Sync Time* button to set SeaFET instrument clock to equal the time on the computer clock.

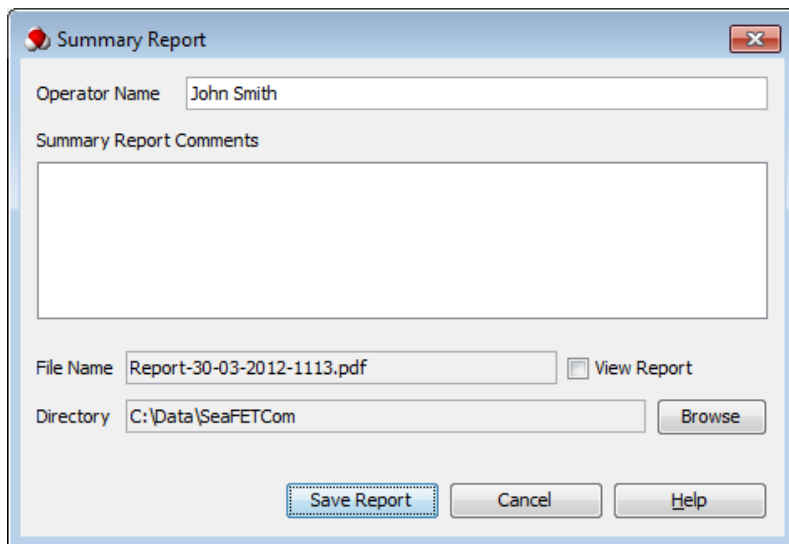
**CAUTION:** The SeaFET clock is always set to Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) regardless of whether the times in the *Set Clock* dialog are configured to display local time or UTC. The *Use UTC Time* option in the [SeaFETCom Preferences](#) dialog determines whether times are displayed in UTC.



## Summary Report

Before a deployment or when it is important to record the complete state of the SeaFET instrument, it is recommended to create a Summary Report. To do this,

1. Connect to SeaFET and enter setup mode.
2. Select *Sensor -> Summary Report* from the main menu to show the *Summary Report* dialog.
3. Type your name in the *Operator Name* field.
4. Type comments in the *Summary Report Comments* field.
5. Check the *View Report* option to view the generated report in your default PDF viewer.
6. Press the *Browse* button to change the output folder named in the *Directory* field.



The image shows a Windows-style dialog box titled "Summary Report". It contains the following fields and controls:

- Operator Name:** A text input field containing "John Smith".
- Summary Report Comments:** A large, empty text area for entering comments.
- File Name:** A text input field containing "Report-30-03-2012-1113.pdf".
- View Report:** A checkbox that is currently unchecked.
- Directory:** A text input field containing "C:\Data\SeaFETCom".
- Browse:** A button next to the Directory field.
- Buttons:** At the bottom, there are three buttons: "Save Report" (highlighted with a dashed border), "Cancel", and "Help".



# Deployment

This chapter describes various deployment scenarios and how to configure and operate SeaFET for each.

Topics in this chapter include:

- [Deployment Scenarios](#)
- [Battery Endurance](#)
- [SeaFET Deployment](#)
- [Real Time Data Acquisition](#)
- [Acquisition Display](#)
- [Logging Real Time Data](#)
- [Acquisition Monitor](#)

## SeaFET Deployment Scenarios

### Power-Limited Applications

*Polled* and *Periodic* operating modes are most convenient for power-limited applications e.g. when SeaFET is being powered by the internal battery and/or an auxiliary external battery. *Polled* mode is used when SeaFET is integrated with an external master controller/logger. *Periodic* mode is ideal for autonomous operation.

### Bandwidth-Limited Applications

If the application at hand is telemetry bandwidth-limited and/or the controller to which SeaFET is integrated has limited data storage capabilities, configuration should involve the following [Telemetry Settings](#) :

*Transmitted Frame Format:* **SHORT\_ASCII**

*Instrument Logging Frame Format:* **FULL\_ASCII**

For all applications, there is ample internal memory to accommodate high data volume internally. It is therefore good practice to always ensure that both science and engineering data are stored by SeaFET internally ( **FULL\_ASCII** ).

If the application is not telemetry bandwidth-limited, and/or the controller to which SeaFET is integrated possesses a surplus of data storage, configuration should involve the following [Telemetry Settings](#) :

*Transmitted Frame Format:* **FULL\_ASCII**

*Instrument Logging Frame Format:* **FULL\_ASCII**

This enables the transmission of the full data frame which includes both science data (e.g. time, pH, temperature, CTD) and engineering data (e.g. battery voltage, internal humidity, etc.). The engineering data are useful in assessing the state-of-health of the instrument.

### Averaging and Burst Sampling

SeaFET can be configured to reduce measurement noise by averaging a number of samples before outputting a frame of data. Additionally, in *Periodic* or *Polled* mode, the number of frames (averaged or not) per burst event can be set. These [SeaFET Settings](#) affect the volume of data output by the sensor, and the power consumed during measurement. You may wish to configure how SeaFET performs averaging and burst sampling for the following reasons:

1. To capture the high-frequency variance in the pH signal, set:

*Number of Samples in Average:* **1**

*Number of Frames in Burst:* **30**

**Result** : Thirty non-averaged frames are transmitted per measurement. Frames within the burst are transmitted at a frequency of approximately 10Hz.

2. You want to adequately sample pH and temperature, however the transmission of large volumes of data is prohibited by monetary cost, limited bandwidth or limited external data storage, set:

*Number of Samples in Average* : **30**

*Number of Frames in Burst* : **1**

**Result** : A single, averaged frame is transmitted. The acquisition will take roughly 3 seconds (30 samples at 10Hz).

3. You are confident that you understand the magnitude of the high-frequency variance in pH and you want to discard this in order to simplify analyses. See immediately above.

## Integrating with a system controller

*Polled* mode is ideally suited to the application involving the integration of SeaFET with a master system controller e.g. buoy controller, CTD bearing serial port, STOR-X.

```
set --opermode polled
```

If the application is not telemetry bandwidth-limited, the system controller possesses a surplus of data storage, and you wish to capture the high-frequency variance in the pH signal, configure as follows:

*Number of Samples in Average*: **1**

*Number of Frames in Burst* : **25**

*Transmitted Frame Format*: **FULL\_ASCII**

It is good practice to ensure that both science and engineering data are stored by SeaFET internally. This is configured as follows:

*Instrument Logging Frame Format*: **FULL\_ASCII**

When in *Polled* mode, SeaFET will sleep until activity is detected on the telemetry port. To wake SeaFET from sleep, send any character on the telemetry port and then wait three (3)seconds for the wake sequence to complete. You then have five (5) seconds to send an 's' character to command SeaFET to start a new sample. Note that if the 's' is not sent within this five (5) second window, SeaFET will return to the sleep state without sampling. SeaFET will acknowledge receipt of a sampling command by echoing the 's' character, followed by one or more frames of sampled data. SeaFET will return to the sleep state when sampling is complete.

## Long Duration Autonomous

For long term autonomous deployment where power is the limiting resource, configure SeaFET for *Periodic* operation mode. Data files may be written to a single, continuous file or may be written to daily log files, whichever is most convenient for analysis.

Averaging should be implemented if you do not want to assess the high frequency component of the acquired signals. Otherwise, disable averaging and set the *Number of Frames in Burst* appropriately.

Deployments of this nature may involve remote locations and costly ship time, therefore considerable thought should be devoted to optimizing data quality/yield with the available power.

*Operational Mode:* **Periodic**

*Sample Interval :* **1hr**

*Number of Samples in Average:* **1**

*Transmitted Frame Format:* **FULL\_ASCII**

*Instrument Logging Frame Format:* **FULL\_ASCII**

## **Shipboard**

Power is generally not a limiting factor on shipboard applications. Configure SeaFET to run in *Continuous* operating mode without averaging. Set data transmission and logging to capture maximum sensor data and engineering data.

*Operational Mode:* **Continuous**

*Number of Samples in Average:* **1**

*Transmitted Frame Format:* **FULL\_ASCII**

*Instrument Logging Frame Format:* **FULL\_ASCII**

# Integration with a SBE-37 CTD (Optional Feature)

The SeaFET has the optional ability to be integrated with a SBE-37 CTD (*SeapHOx* mode) in order to perform accurate real-time temperature and salinity corrections and to log oxygen concentration among several other SBE-37 parameters (Refer to the [Data Formats Reference](#) for information on available parameters).

## CTD Configuration

Prior integration with the SeaFET, the CTD needs to be configured so that it operates at the right baudrate, outputs data in a format the SeaFET can understand, and reports temperature and salinity in the right units. The CTD pumping time also needs to be adjusted for proper interoperation.

The following CTD settings must be ensured for proper interoperation. Refer to the CTD manual for instructions on how to change these parameters.

- **Baudrate:** BaudRate=9600
- **Output format:** OutputFormat=2
- **Enable temperature:** OutputTemp=Y
- **Enable salinity:** OutputSal=Y
- **Enable oxygen:** OutputOx=Y
- **Enable pressure:** OutputPress=Y
- **Output units:** SetCoastal=0
- **Pumping:** AdaptivePumpControl=N, OxNTau=7



**WARNING:** The CTD needs to be configured for interoperation with the SeaFET prior integration. Failure to configure the CTD adequately may result in invalid measurements. A pre-deployment test is highly recommended to make sure the CTD data is being ingested by the SeaFET and processed accordingly.

---

## Electrical Integration

The relevant signals for CTD integration are documented in the [External Interfaces](#) section. At a minimum V- along with CTD TXD (data transmission from SeaFET to CTD) and CTD\_RXD (data reception from

CTD) should be connected to the CTD ground, reception, and transmission lines respectively. If the SeaFET is to provide power to the CTD then the CTD V+ line should be connected to the CTD power input line.

## SeaFET Configuration

To enable CTD interoperation refer to the [CTD Settings](#) section in this manual.

Interoperation with the SBE-37 is available in all three operational modes (polled, periodic, and continuous). However, for a stand-alone or logger controlled deployment the periodic and polled mode should be selected respectively.

When operating alongside with the SBE-37 the SeaFET will periodically poll for CTD data and use it for pH calculation. Since pumping needs to take place in the SBE-37 it usually takes in the order of 40 seconds to start outputting data that the SeaFET can use for pH calculation. For this reason, frames will take a while to appear at the telemetry port after the sampling event is started. Also note that power consumption will be increased due to the extended time the SeaFET needs to be active. See the [Battery Endurance](#) section in this manual for an example of how the CTD impacts power consumption.

## Integration with an External Pump

For applications in which water circulation is required the SeaFET has the ability to control an external pump. To this end, the SeaFET features a switched 12V output that can be connected to the power input of an external pump (see PUMP V+ in [External Interfaces](#) section). Note that V- would also have to be connected to the pump negative input.

Typically the SeaFET would be configured to pump before or during sampling. Different deployment configurations will require different pumping times. Refer to the [External Pump Settings](#) section for information on how to configure the pumped operation.

Note that pumping will impact the power consumption performance by increasing the active current and the time the SeaFET is active during sampling.

Satlantic recommends using the Sea-Bird 5P submersible pump. Other pumps could be considered provided they can be powered from 12V, do not drain more than 650mA continuously, and provide sufficient flow.

## SeaFET Battery Endurance

### Introduction

This section provides guidance for estimating battery-powered deployment duration. SeaFET battery life is a function of battery conditions such as age and temperature, power consumption characteristics of the instrument, and the sampling schedule selected by the operator. An understanding of these factors provided by some example calculations will help in deployment planning.

The SeaFET operates from a single battery stack which is internally divided into two independent battery packs:

- Main battery pack: used for supplying power during sampling.
- Isolated battery pack: used for supplying power to the sensing element while in standby.

When calculating battery endurance both packs need to be accounted for.

### Calculating Usable Battery Capacity

The SeaFET internal battery compartment holds 12 Alkaline D-Cell batteries. The nominal capacity specified by the battery manufacturer is attained under ideal operating conditions. To calculate deployment duration the user should consider the 'usable capacity' which is calculated from the nominal capacity and takes into account:

- **Operating Temperature** : Usable capacity decreases at lower temperatures. A 1% per °C below 20°C de-rating is recommended.
- **Battery Self Discharge** : A battery capacity is continuously reduced due to self discharge effects. A 5% per year de-rating is recommended.
- **A Safety Factor** : A safety factor of 15% is recommended when calculating usable capacity.

**NOTE:** The temperature and self-discharge de-rating guidelines are specified for alkaline batteries. Consult the battery manufacturer documentation if using a different chemistry.

### Sample Calculation

For a six-month deployment in 12°C waters using a 19800 mAh alkaline battery pack (nominal capacity for Panasonic LR20XWA) the usable capacity will be:

$$Q_u = 19800 \text{ mAh} \times 0.92 \times 0.975 \times 0.85 = 15100 \text{ mAh}$$

Where 0.92 accounts for the temperature de-rating (8°C below 20°C), 0.975 accounts for a 2.5% six-month self discharge, and 0.85 accounts for the recommended 15% safety factor.

### Endurance Calculations: Periodic Mode



Use the following formulas to estimate the deployment duration,  $T_d$ , for a given deployment configuration in periodic mode. The formulas provide an estimated duration for each internal pack (main and isolated). The overall deployment duration will be the lowest of the two.

For the main battery pack:

$$T_{dm} = Q_u / [D \times I_a]$$

For the isolated battery pack:

$$T_{di} = Q_u / [(1-D) \times I_s]$$

Where:

- $T_d$ : Deployment duration (in h).
- $Q_u$ : Usable capacity (in mAh).
- $I_s$ : Sleep current (1.1 mA).
- $I_a$ : Active current (30 mA).
- Duty cycle, calculated as:

$$D = (t_{boot} + t_{pump} + b_s \times n_{avg} \times t_{sample}) / T$$

Where:

- $t_{boot}$ : Boot from sleep time (3.5 s).
- $t_{pump}$ : CTD pumping time (recommended 35s)
- $b_s$ : Burst size.
- $n_{avg}$ : Averaging size.
- $t_{sample}$ : 1-sample time (0.1 s).
- $T$ : Periodic sampling interval (in s).

Note that  $T$ ,  $b_s$ , and  $n_{Avg}$  are user selectable parameters. On the other hand  $I_s$ ,  $I_a$ ,  $t_{boot}$ , and  $t_{sample}$  are inherent characteristics of the SeaFET.

### Sample Calculation - I

A SeaFET without a slave CTD is to be deployed in 15°C waters taking measurements every 5 minutes ( $T=300s$ ). Each measurement consists of a burst of 9 frames ( $b_s=9$ ), where each frame is an average of 10 measurements ( $n_{avg}=10$ ).

To calculate the deployment duration, first calculate the usable battery capacity for these conditions:

$$Q_u = 19800 \text{ mAh} \times 0.95 \times 0.95 \times 0.85 = 15189 \text{ mAh}$$

Where 0.95 accounts for the temperature de-rating, another 0.95 accounts for the self-discharge over a year and 0.85 is the recommended safety factor.

Calculate the duty cycle:

$$D = (3.5s + 0 + (9 \times 10 \times 0.1s)) / 300s = 0.0417$$

Finally, substitute these into the deployment duration formulas:

$$T_{dm} = 15,189 \text{ mAh} / [0.0417 \times 30 \text{ mA}] = 12151 \text{ h} = \mathbf{506 \text{ days}}$$

$$T_{di} = 15,189 \text{ mAh} / [(1 - 0.0417) \times 1.1 \text{ mA}] = 14408 \text{ h} = \mathbf{600 \text{ days}}$$

The estimated deployment duration will then be 506 days.

## Sample Calculation - II

A SeaFET is to be deployed in 12°C waters on a 15-minutes schedule ( $T=900s$ ). Each measurement consists of a burst of 9 frames ( $bs=9$ ), where each frame is an average of 10 measurements ( $navg=10$ ). The SeaFET will also control a CTD in order to perform on-the-fly temperature and salinity corrections. The CTD will be powered from its own internal batteries so no additional power will be required from the SeaFET.

To estimate the usable capacity:

$$Q_u = 19,800 \text{ mAh} \times 0.92 \times 0.95 \times 0.85 = 14,710 \text{ mAh}$$

Where 0.92 accounts for the temperature de-rating, 0.85 accounts for the safety factor, and a 1-year self discharge de-rating (0.95 factor) is applied to cover pre-deployment storage time and deployment duration.

To estimate the deployment duration:

$$D = (3.5s + 35s + (9 \times 10 \times 0.1) s) / 900 s = 0.0528$$

$$T_{dm} = 14,710 \text{ mAh} / [0.0528 \times 30\text{mA}] = 9290 \text{ h} = \mathbf{387 \text{ days}}$$

$$T_{di} = 14,710 \text{ mAh} / [(1 - 0.0528) \times 1.1 \text{ mA}] = 14118 \text{ h} = \mathbf{588 \text{ days}}$$

The estimated deployment duration will then be 387 days provided that the CTD has enough battery power to operate during such period of time. Please refer to the CTD documentation for instructions on how to estimate its battery endurance.

## SeaFET Deployment

1. Use [SeaFETCom](#) to configure the [SeaFET Operational Mode](#) and other desired settings.
2. If using the USB interface, eject or unmount the SeaFET drive from your OS, then unplug the USB cable.
3. Ensure the internal batteries are installed and activated. NOTE: Once the batteries are activated the instrument will commence its sampling routine. An indicator LED will signal the start of the sampling program. Refer to the [External interfaces](#) section for details on the indicator LED blinking patterns.
4. If applicable connect a power or data logger cable. Or re-install the dummy plug if the instrument is to operate in stand-alone mode.
5. Remove the wet cap. Install the anti-fouling guard (see procedures below).
6. Deploy SeaFET.



**WARNING:** Internal batteries **MUST** be installed and activated before deployment. Failure to do so will result in unusable data. Batteries can be activated from the SeaFETCom dashboard or by using the magnetic switch.

---

In order to ready an instrument for operation from storage or from the state in which the instrument was shipped, the wet cap must be removed, the foul guard must be installed, and the deployment cable connected. These procedures are outlined below.

### Remove Wet Cap

1. Remove the two stainless steel plugs from the Wet Cap. Set aside for future wet cap use.
2. Invert the instrument to pour the storage solution (artificial seawater) from the wet cap into a sink or vessel. This procedure will be easier if the cable is not connected. Return the instrument to its initial orientation.
3. Using a 5/32" hex driver or Allen key, remove the three 10-32 x 5/8" socket head cap screws from wet cap. Set the screws aside for anti-fouling guard installation.
4. Remove the wet cap, ensuring that the associated O-ring is retained for future use.
5. Wipe the instrument housing and wet cap surfaces dry of any excess artificial seawater.

### Install Foul Guard

1. Place the instrument on a flat surface with the connector/sensor end cap up.
2. Place the electrode foul guard over the ISFET probe and external reference electrode.
3. Insert three 10-32 x 5/8" socket head cap screws removed from the wet cap and tighten completely using a 5/32" hex driver or Allen key.

## **Connect Deployment Cable**

After confirming battery condition and correct deployment settings using the test cable disconnect the test cable and connect the deployment cable. If the instrument is being deployed autonomously, install the dummy plug on the connector. Secure the locking sleeve.

## **Deployment Tips**

It is recommended that the sensor be oriented horizontally. If the instrument is mounted such that the electrodes face downward, the accumulation of bubbles in the vicinity of the sensing elements may adversely affect measurement. Similarly, if the electrodes face upwards, the accumulation of particulates may affect the instrument accuracy.

The ISFET used by SeaFET is known to exhibit a slight sensitivity to light. This precludes any orientation that places the sensing elements in direct exposure to light. This sensitivity may be diminished by the attenuation of light by the foul guard. Mounting SeaFET in an orientation that places the sensing elements facing upwards is not recommended.

Stagnant, low-flow environments present challenges to many potentiometric measurement systems. Care should be taken to validate sensor performance in low-flow environments, where possible, prior to long deployments.

## **Validate**

It is standard practice to validate performance while SeaFET is deployed. Where possible, water sampling in the vicinity of the sensor should be performed at the beginning of a deployment and near the end of a deployment. Care should be taken to observe appropriate sampling protocols for pH. An accurate external estimate of pH may be obtained through an implementation of the method developed by Byrne et al. (1988).

## Real Time Data Acquisition

SeaFETCom can acquire data samples in real time from a connected SeaFET. Acquired data and data statistics can be directed to the following destinations:

- The *Time Series* graph plots all acquired pH and temperature samples vs time.
- The *Real Time Display* shows the most recently acquired pH and temperature values in text format.
- The *Acquisition Monitor* counts number of data frames acquired and provides error statistics.
- Local log files: captured data frames are written to a file

Real time data acquisition via SeaFETCom is only possible when SeaFET is configured to operate in *Continuous* mode or *Periodic* mode. *Polled* mode data acquisition is not supported in SeaFETCom. See SeaFET Settings for more information on setting SeaFET operating modes.

### Starting an Acquisition

To start a data acquisition:

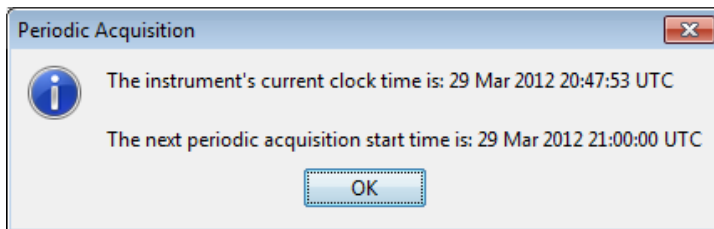
1. Ensure SeaFET is powered by internal battery pack or external DC power supply.
2. Connect SeaFETCom to SeaFET per instructions in Connecting to SeaFET section.
3. In the *General* tab on the *SeaFET Settings* dialog, ensure that *Operational Mode* is set to *Continuous* (preferred) or *Periodic* (for pre-deployment testing).
4. In the *Telemetry* tab on the *SeaFET Settings* dialog, ensure that *Transmitted Frame Format* is set to *FULL\_ASCII*.
5. Press the *Start* button on the dashboard.
6. If SeaFET is in *Periodic* operating mode, press *OK* on the *Periodic Acquisition* dialog that shows the next periodic sampling start time.

When a SeaFET is connected to SeaFETCom an acquisition can be started by pressing the **Start** button, if no internal battery is present SeaFETCom will prompt to apply external power.

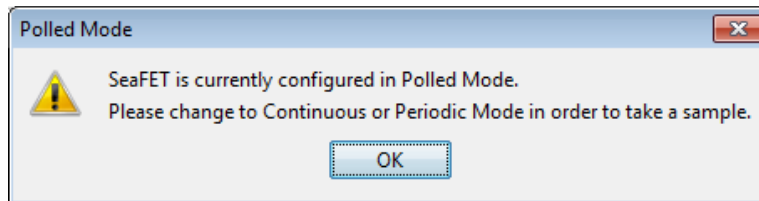
When starting an acquisition within SeaFETCom, the graphical data display allows monitoring of the generated data in real time. Before deployment, it is advisable to confirm that the generated data are within the expected range.

The procedure to acquire real time data via SeaFETCom is slightly different for the following Operational Modes:

- **Continuous** - When the Acquisition Start button is pressed, SeaFETCom commands SeaFET to exit Setup mode and begin emitting frames of data. The data frames are acquired by SeaFETCom until the *Acquisition Stop* button is pressed.
- **Periodic** - When the *Acquisition Start* button is pressed the *Periodic Acquisition* dialog is opened to display the SeaFET clock time and the start time of the next periodic acquisition event. Then SeaFETCom commands SeaFET to exit Setup mode and does not start acquiring data frames until it is time for the next periodic acquisition event. The duration of each periodic acquisition event is based on the *burst* setting, which defines the a number of frames to output. The data frames will continue to be acquired periodically until the *Acquisition Stop* button is pressed.



- **Polled** - When the *Acquisition Start* button is pressed, the *Polled Mode* dialog warns that SeaFET must be configured for either *Continuous* or *Periodic Mode* in order to acquire data from SeaFET using SeaFETCom.

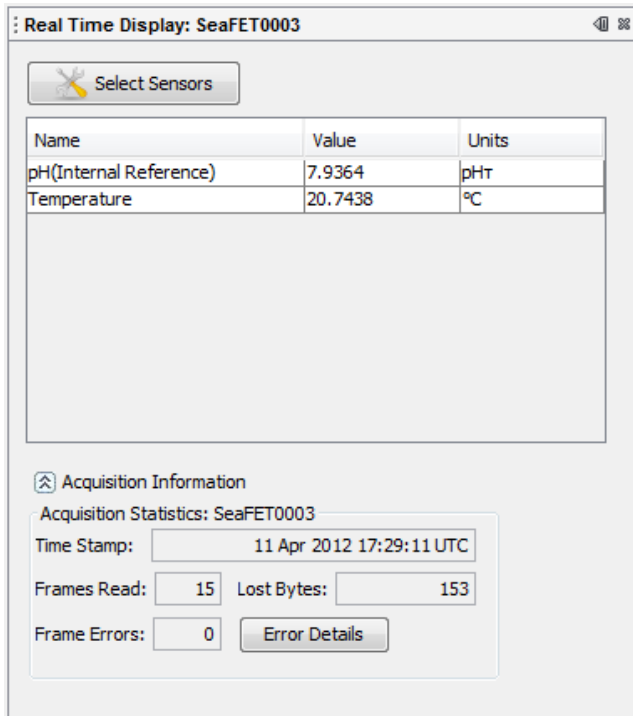


## Acquisition Display

SeaFETCom is set up to display data collected from SeaFET in both real time and graphical views. All the data displays are described below.

### Real Time Display

When an acquisition starts, the Real Time Display data view will appear on the bottom left area of the main application window. The Real Time Display is continuously updated to show the most recent pH and temperature values reported by the SeaFET:



**Real Time Display: SeaFET0003**

Select Sensors

Name	Value	Units
pH(Internal Reference)	7.9364	pHr
Temperature	20.7438	°C

Acquisition Information

Acquisition Statistics: SeaFET0003

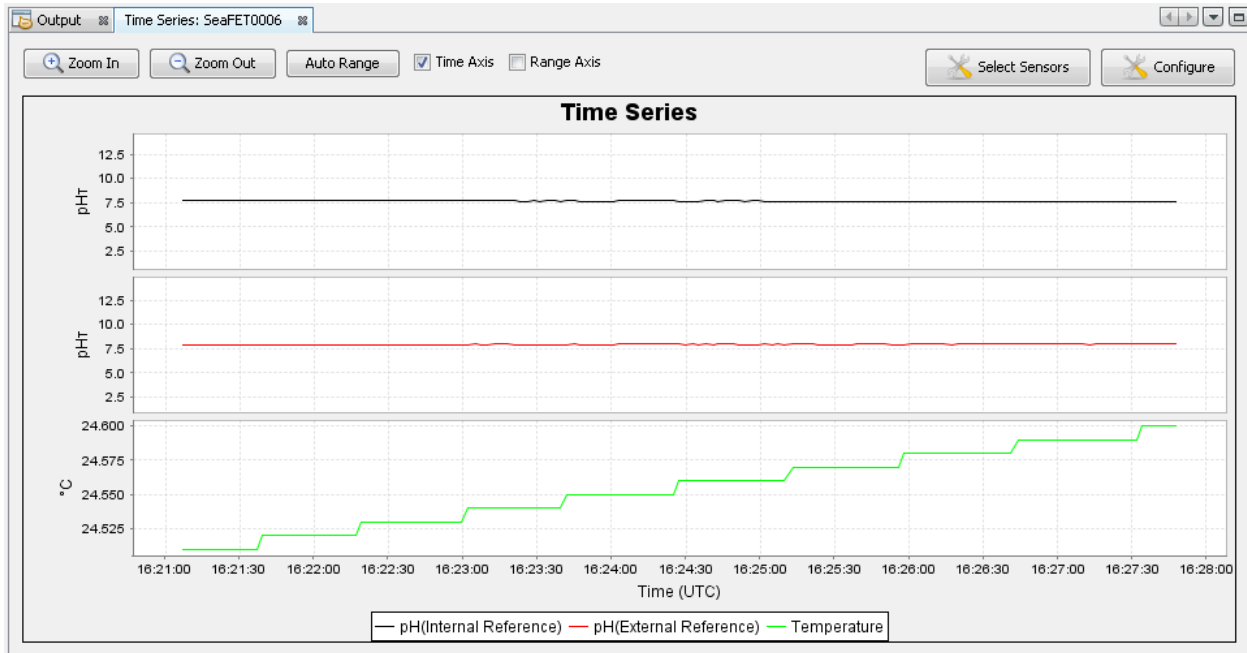
Time Stamp: 11 Apr 2012 17:29:11 UTC

Frames Read: 15 Lost Bytes: 153

Frame Errors: 0 [Error Details](#)

### Time Series Graph

The time series graph shows a history of all pH and temperature readings reported by the SeaFET since start of data acquisition:



## Zooming and Panning on the Time Series Graph

Zooming in and out of the Time Series Graph can be accomplished in several ways. The first is by the use of the zoom buttons at the top left of the Time Series Graph. The *Zoom In* and *Zoom Out* buttons will zoom the plots around the date center point. The *Auto Range* button resets the graph so that the whole data range is visible. The check boxes control which axes these three buttons work on. If both are checked, zooming is enabled on both axes. Otherwise, zooming only occurs along the checked axis. If neither is checked, the zoom buttons are disabled. Note that clicking on one of the plots with the mouse changes the zoom behaviour. Zooming still occurs along the Time Axis for all plots but along the Range Axis for the clicked-on plot only. Click on the Time Series Graph outside the individual plots to recover the original zooming behaviour.

Zooming can also be accomplished by holding the left mouse button and selecting an area in the graph while dragging the mouse from left to right. The graph is zoomed to the selected area on the release of the mouse button. Moving the mouse from right to left while holding the left mouse button down zooms the graph back out. The zoom functions are also available on a menu that pops up when the right mouse button is clicked over the graph.

Panning operations on the Time Series Graph are also supported. They are available by pressing a modifier key while dragging the plot with the mouse. On Windows the modifier key is the Control key while on the MacOSX it is the Alt key.

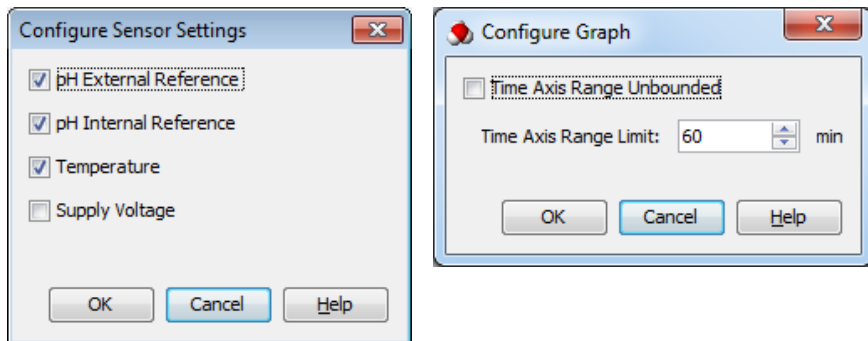
## Time Series Graph Configuration

The Time Series Graph can be configured by pressing the *Select Sensors* button or the *Configure* button.



The Configure Graph dialog allows the time axis range to be either unbounded or to be limited to a specified number of minutes. When the time axis range size is limited, the time series graphs will only display the most recent data values that are time-stamped within the specified number of minutes.

The Select Sensors dialog provides the ability to select the sensors to display in the Time Series view.



## Logging Real Time Data

SeaFET has ample internal storage to log months or even years of sensor data, which is ideal for autonomous deployment. For tethered operation such as a profiling cast or pre-deployment test, SeaFETCom can be commanded to log a copy of the sensor data as it is transmitted in real time.

To log SeaFET data in real time:

1. Connect to SeaFET.
2. In *SeaFET Settings* dialog, set operating mode to *Continuous*.
3. Press *Start* button on the *Dashboard*.
4. Select *View -> Data Logging* on the SeaFETCom main menu.
5. Press *Start Log* button to begin logging acquired SeaFET data.

The Data Logging window allows you to create a separate log that is a subset of the current acquisition. When an active acquisition is underway, press the *Start Log* button to begin logging data to a local file. Once enough data has been logged, simply press the *Stop Log* button to finish logging.

The *Auto Log Duration* and *Repeat Auto Log after Interval* values (hh:mm:ss) are used to log data to multiple data files when the *Start Log* button is pressed. By enabling the *Auto Log Duration* option, data logging will automatically stop after the specified duration time has elapsed. If you enable the *Repeat Auto Log after Interval* option as well, logging will automatically start logging again after the last data log has stopped and the specified interval time has elapsed.

**Data Logging**

Frames Logged: 0 Log Timer:

**Logging Options**

Log File Prefix:

Log Directory:

Previous Log File(s):

**Auto Logging**

☒ Auto Log Duration:

☐ Repeat Auto Log after Interval:

# Configure Data File Headers

Select the *Configure Data File Headers* action to edit data file header records that are written by SeaFETCom to every logged sensor data file.

Three static headers are included by default:

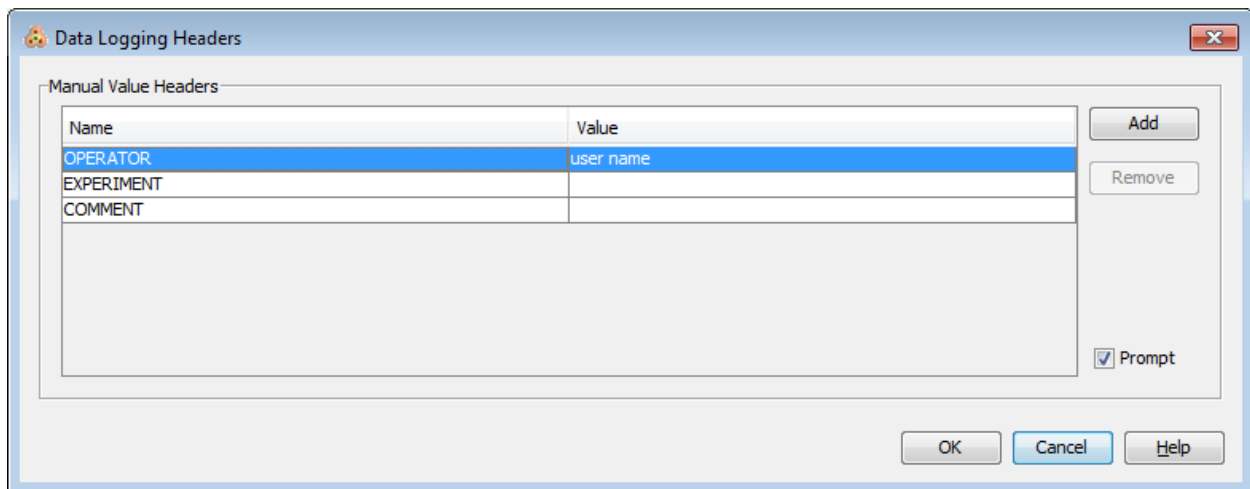
- OPERATOR
- EXPERIMENT
- COMMENT

Press the *Add* button to add a custom header.

Press the *Remove* button to remove the selected custom header.

Double-click any *Value* cell to edit the value for the corresponding header.

Select the *Prompt* option to cause SeaFETCom to prompt for input of header record values whenever data logging is started.



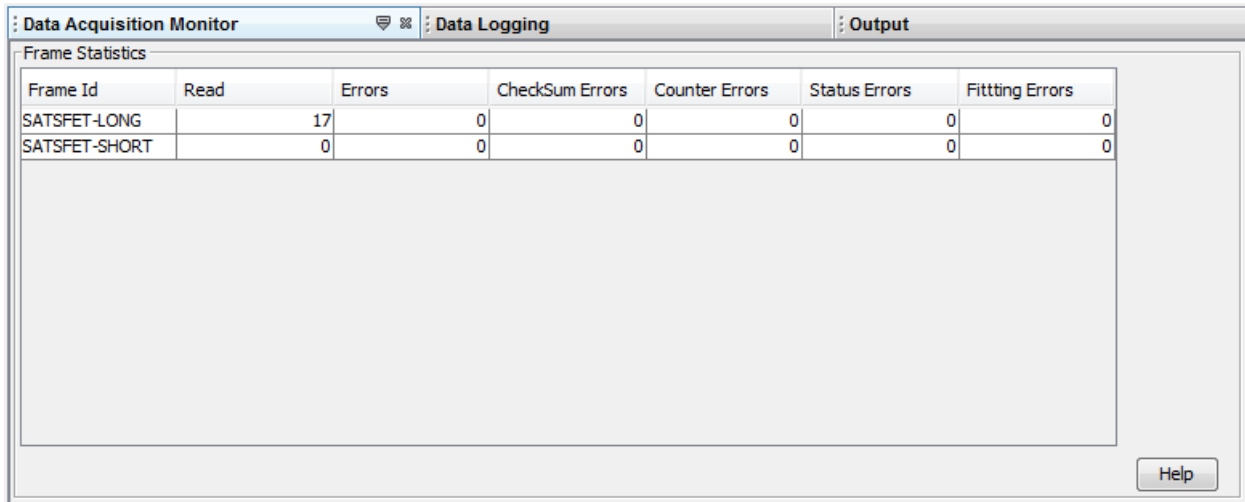
Name	Value
OPERATOR	user name
EXPERIMENT	
COMMENT	

☒ Prompt

## Acquisition Monitor

The Acquisition Monitor can be found from the View menu item or it can be started by pressing the "Error Details" button on the "Real Time Data" view.

The Acquisition Monitor window shows the overall results of an acquisition. It is useful in displaying problems that are occurring within the frame that SeaFET is outputting.



Frame Id	Read	Errors	CheckSum Errors	Counter Errors	Status Errors	Fitting Errors
SATSFET-LONG	17	0	0	0	0	0
SATSFET-SHORT	0	0	0	0	0	0

### Description of Fields:

The statistics are populated when an acquisition is active. In most cases the number of erroneous frames are minimal, or none. This panel can be useful in determining when and why errors are occurring.

### Frame Statistics

- Frame Id - The unique identifier of the frame in the Satlantic instrument package definition.
- Read - The number of valid frames read during an acquisition for a particular frame.
- Errors - The number of frames read that contained errors during an acquisition for a particular frame.
- Checksum Errors - The number of frames that contained checksum errors, typically discarded.
- Counter Errors - The number of frames that contained counter errors, typically not discarded.
- Status Errors - The number of frames that contained status errors, typically discarded.
- Fitting Errors - The number of frames that contained fitting errors, typically discarded.

# Recovery and Processing

Topics in this chapter include:

- [SeaFET Recovery](#)
- [Data Recovery](#)
- [SeaFET Sensor Data](#)
- [Data Processing](#)

## SeaFET Recovery

### Instrument Handling

Consult the Safety and Hazards section to familiarize yourself with safe handling procedures and potential hazards. Particular attention should be paid to the warning describing the safety procedure when removing the instrument end-cap.

Handle the instrument carefully ensuring that the sensing head is protected at all times by means of either the foul guard or the wet cap. Upon initial recovery of the instrument, and following an inspection of the sensing elements, install the instrument wet cap (if it was not already in place for a special application deployment). The wet cap installation procedure is documented in the [Preventative Maintenance](#) section of this manual. Ensure that the wet cap is filled with sterilized, artificial seawater.

### Data Retrieval

Data files logged internally on a SeaFET can be listed and retrieved using either

- SeaFETCom File Manager , or
- SeaFET USB Mass Storage

For more information, see [Data Recovery](#)

### Shut-down / Stand-by

Depending on the anticipated post-recovery instrument down-time, it may be advantageous to fully power-off SeaFET to preserve its internal battery's charge. Note however that the sensing element requires a continuous current flow to provide stable readings. Once shut-down, the instrument may take up to 24 hours to warm-up and provide stable readings.



**IMPORTANT**

Even while the instrument is not sampling, its sensing element requires a continuous current flow for measurement stability purposes. This power is drawn from the internal batteries. To preserve battery power after the instrument is retrieved consider deactivating the battery pack using the magnetic switch or through SeaFETCom.

Note, however, that a sensing element may take up to 24 hours to warm-up and provide reliable readings after it has been re-powered and deployed.

---

To place SeaFET in low-power stand-by mode so that warm-up is not required:

1. Connect via [SeaFETCom Dashboard](#) .

2. Select *Polled* mode in [SeaFET Settings](#) .
3. Disconnect via [SeaFETCom Dashboard](#) .

## Visual Inspection

Visually assess the sensing elements. Look for particulates. Look for erosion of the reference electrode. Inspect the sensing head of the instrument. Look for particulate deposits in the vicinity of the ISFET and reference electrodes. Assess whether the surface of the reference electrode has undergone any corrosion or whether any deposits appear. Inspect the annular, ceramic frit located at the base of the protrusion on which the ISFET is located. Ensure that the frit is not fouled: it should be white or slightly off-white in color. Note all such qualitative observations to aid in future quality assessment of the data.

In the event that either the ISFET or the reference electrode requires cleaning, please refer to [Preventative Maintenance](#) .

## Data Recovery

The SeaFET stores sensor data and log files on its internal drive. Note that the date and times associated with the files are UTC times.

## USB Mass Storage

The most efficient method of retrieving large numbers of files from SeaFET is via the USB Mass Storage interface:

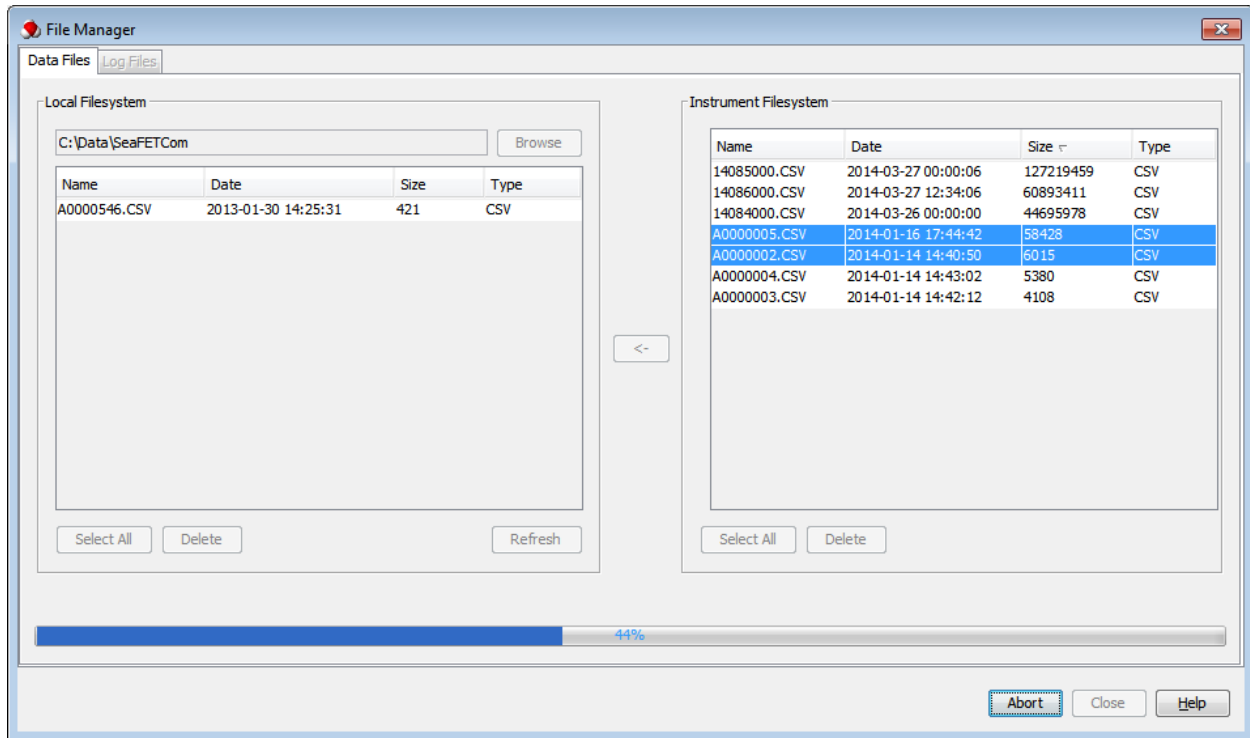
1. Connect USB programming cable to the SeaFET USB bulkhead connector
2. Connect USB programming cable to any available USB port on your computer.
3. Find the mounted SeaFET drive on the computer's Desktop or via the computer's file explorer program.
4. Select desired files from the SeaFET drive.
5. Copy/paste or drag/drop the selected files to a local folder.

The SeaFET USB Mass Storage interface is **read-only** . You cannot delete files from SeaFET internal storage via USB Mass Storage. Use the SeaFETCom *File Manager* to delete unwanted files from SeaFET internal storage.

## File Manager

To use the SeaFET *File Manager* , you must first connect to SeaFET via RS-232 COM port or USB virtual COM port. After connection is established, press the *Transfer Files* button on the [SeaFETCom Dashboard](#) to show the *File Manager* dialog.





The *File Manager* dialog shows two tab buttons, each of which provides access to a category of files:

- *Data Files* : sensor data files
- *Log Files*: errors, warnings, and diagnostics files

To download files to your computer:

- Press the *Browse* button in the *Local File System* pane to select the local folder that will receive the downloaded files.
- In the *Instrument File System* panel, select the files to be downloaded from the SeaFET.
- Press the '<-' (left arrow) button between the panels to transfer the selected files.
- If a download is taking too long the *Cancel* button can be pressed to cancel the download.
- Monitor the transfer progress bar. Do not exit the program or disconnect SeaFET until the progress bar reports 100%.

To free internal SeaFET storage space by removing files:

- Ensure that the files to be deleted have been completely and successfully downloaded to the computer before proceeding. Deleted data files cannot be recovered.
- In the *Instrument File System* panel, select the files to be deleted.

- Press the *Delete* button.
- When prompted, confirm the delete operation.

## SeaFET Sensor Data

SeaFET simultaneously streams and stores data frames. Streamed and stored data frames can be of different formats. That is, SeaFET can be configured to stream short frames and store long frames or vice versa.

The internally logged data can be retrieved through USB mass storage or by using the Transfer Files function of SeaFETCom. See [Data Formats Reference](#) for a full description of both long and short frames.

## Data File Syntax

When using the USB Mass storage interface, data files resulting from the sampling operation are stored in the 'DATA' directory. Three data file generation rules are determined by the 'Log File Creation Method':

- **By File Size** : Data is stored in a single file until its size reaches a pre-specified limit ('datfsz' setting). These files are named incrementally from 'C0000000.csv' to 'C9999999.csv'.
- **By Sampling Event** : A new file is generated for each sampling event. These files are named incrementally from 'A0000000.csv' to 'A9999999.csv'.
- **Daily** : The sensor generates one file per day. These files are named as: 'yydddnnn.csv', where 'yy' is the year and 'ddd' is the day of the year and 'nnn' is a sequence number. NOTE: A file is generated in a given day only if a sample event occurs.

Changes to any settings that will effect data processing(i.e. number of samples to average) will also cause the log file name to increment.

## System Messages Files

The system message files contain system log information and are intended for diagnosing problems in the event of a sensor failure. These files are stored in the 'LOG' directory.

## Data Processing

SeaFETCom can re-process data files that have been off-loaded from SeaFET to the local file system. Re-processing allows the input of ancillary temperature and/or salinity measurements to calculate a potentially more accurate pH value than that produced by SeaFET, which uses an internal thermistor and a fixed salinity value.

SeaFET Data Files

Browse

Processing Options


☒ Enable Raw Data Checksum Validation

SeaFET Calibration File:

Browse


☐ Coefficients from SeaFET Calibration File

☒ Coefficients from SeaFET Data File Header

 Specify Temperature Salinity Data

Temperature-Salinity External File

Browse

 No Data

Time-Stamp Options

☐ Offset 

+

00:00:00

 hh:mm:ss

Temperature Options

☐ Temperature from External File

☒ Temperature from SeaFET Data Frames

☐ CTD Temperature from SeaFET Data Frames

☐ Offset 

0.00

 °C

Salinity Options

☐ Salinity from External File

☒ Salinity from SeaFET Data File Header

☐ CTD Salinity from SeaFET Data Frames

☐ Salinity 

35.000

 PSU

## To Process Raw Files

Select *Data* -> *SeaFET Data Processing* from the main menu to show the data processing panel.

### Select SeaFET Data Files

Press the *Browse* button to locate and select one or more raw files to place in the *SeaFET Data Files* list. Any files already in the list are replaced by this action. All files placed in the list are initially selected (highlighted) for later processing.

You can select or deselect individual and multiple files in both the *Select Data Files* dialog shown by the *Browse* button, and in the *SeaFET Data Files* list on the processing panel. There are several ways to change which files are selected:

- Click on a file to select it and de-select all others.
- Hold <Ctrl> and click on a file to toggle its selection state without affecting other selected files.
- Hold <Shift> and click on a file to select a range of files.
- Hold <Ctrl> and <Shift> to select a range of files without affecting other selected files
- Up/down arrow keys can be used instead of mouse click.

### Specify Calibration Coefficients

Each SeaFET is individually factory-calibrated to compensate for sensor variations. Calibration coefficients are stored on the device and are applied by SeaFET to on-board pH calculations.

Every data file logged by SeaFET or SeaFETCom provides header records that specify the calibration coefficients in effect at the time of acquisition. When re-processing a logged data file, SeaFETCom by default applies the calibration coefficients extracted from the data file headers.

SeaFET data recorded by an external logger will not contain calibration header records, and SeaFETCom will therefore be unable to reprocess it. To work around this limitation, you may supply coefficients via the *SeaFET Calibration File* input field on the SeaFETCom Data Processing Dashboard. The format of the supplied calibration file is implied by the example below:

```
#SeaFET Calibration
#Tue May 15 12:45:24 ADT 2012
SEAFET_SERIAL_NUMBER=0006
SEAFET_CAL_OPERATOR=Marlon Lewis
SEAFET_CAL_TIME_STAMP=2012-04-27T17:27:27+0000
SEAFET_CAL_PH_TOTAL_SCALE=8.10
SEAFET_CAL_TEMPERATURE_C=21.25
SEAFET_CAL_SALINITY_PSU=35.00
SEAFET_CAL_PHINT_OFFSET_COEFF=-9.231390E-02
SEAFET_CAL_PHINT_SLOPE_COEFF=-1.101228E-03
SEAFET_CAL_PHEXT_OFFSET_COEFF=-1.064598E00
SEAFET_CAL_PHEXT_SLOPE_COEFF=-1.048245E-03
```

## Specify Temperature and Salinity Data

The pH calculation is dependent on temperature and salinity. SeaFET uses an internal thermistor and a user-defined salinity constant for on-board calculation. The accuracy of the pH calculation can be improved by reprocessing in SeaFETCom software using temperature and/or salinity inputs from external sources.

## Temperature Salinity External File

SeaFETCom accepts time-correlated temperature and salinity data in one of two supported file formats:

1. Generic CSV (Comma Separated Values) text file
2. Sea-Bird Electronics .cnv (converted) CTD data format

Select the temperature/salinity external file using the *Browse* button. The selected file is displayed in the text field and a *data loaded* icon will appear when data loading is complete.

## Temperature Salinity CSV File

SeaFETCom accepts data from a CSV file in the following format:

YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss, <temperature>, <salinity><cr><lf>

Where

- YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss is the UTC date and time that the temperature and salinity sample was collected
- <temperature> is the measured temperature in degrees Celsius, in floating point format
- <salinity> is the measure salinity in PSU, in floating point format
- <cr><lf> are the carriage return and linefeed characters to indicate end of line

Fields must be separated by the comma (',') character.

This is an example of a valid file:

```
2012-04-25 15:22:48,10.8326,34.8974
2012-04-25 15:22:54,10.8547,34.895
2012-04-25 15:23:00,10.8517,34.9032
2012-04-25 15:23:06,10.867,34.9007
2012-04-25 15:23:12,10.8889,34.8926
```

There are many utilities and editors available that can be used to convert temperature and salinity data to the above required format. For scripted conversion of large data sets, tools such as GNU AWK and Microsoft Windows PowerShell are very effective.

The most ubiquitous data manipulation application is Microsoft Excel. Follow these basic steps to use Excel to convert data to the format required by SeaFETCom:

- Import data into Excel
- Convert date/time to a single 'YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss' text field
- Remove all columns except date/time, temperature, and salinity
- Re-order columns to match the <date/time>, <temperature>, <salinity> ordering required
- Save as a comma-delimited text file

#### **Sea-Bird CTD Converted File**

In addition to the generic CSV format described above, SeaFETCom can also ingest temperature and salinity measurements from a file in a specific .cnv (converted) format as generated by the *SBE Data Processing* software application provided by Sea-Bird Electronics <http://seabird.com> for their line of CTD (conductivity/temperature/depth) sensor packages.

To convert your Sea-Bird CTD data to a compatible format for SeaFETCom:

1. Copy your .hex and .xmlcon CTD files to the SBE Data Processing input directory (example: C:\Program Files\Sea-Bird\SBEDataProcessing-Win32).
2. From the SBE Data Processing main menu select *Run -> Data Conversion*.
3. In the *File Setup* tab, select your .hex and .xmlcon input files.
4. In the *Data Setup* tab, press *Select Output Variables*.
5. In the *Select Output Variables* dialog, add these fields in order:
  - a. Time, Instrument [seconds]
  - b. Temperature [ITS-90, degC]
  - c. Salinity, Practical [PSU]
6. Press the *Start Process* button to create a .cnv file.

The data section (following the header meta-data) in the resulting .cnv file should look something like this:

388682568	10.8326	34.8974	0.000e+00
388682574	10.8547	34.8950	0.000e+00
388682580	10.8517	34.9032	0.000e+00
388682586	10.8670	34.9007	0.000e+00
388682592	10.8889	34.8926	0.000e+00

To minimize additional steps on subsequent conversion operations, use the *Program setup file* panel to save your SeaFET-specific conversion configuration as a new .psa file. A sample .psa file for converting SBE37 data to SeaFET format is available at <http://satlantic.com/DatCnv-SEB37-SeaFETCom-1.0.0.psa> .

## Time Stamp Options

Select the *Offset* option to specify a positive or negative time offset to apply to the external temperature/salinity data. This can be used to compensate for clock drift or time zone differences between CTD data and SeaFET data.

## Temperature Options

Select one of the *Temperature Options* to indicate the source of temperature data

- *Temperature from External File* - The temperature values used for SeaFET data processing are taken from the external File.
- *Temperature from SeaFET Data Frames* - The temperature values used for SeaFET data processing are those from the internal thermistor taken from the SeaFET data frames.
- *CTD Temperature from SeaFET Data Frames* - The temperature values used for SeaFET data processing are those from an attached SeaBird CTD instrument taken from the SeaFET data frames. Note that selecting this temperature source from a file that does not contain CTD temperature values will cause an error dialogue to open.
- *Offset* - An offset applied to the temperature, whether that from an extern file, that from the SeaFET Data Frames, or that from the CTD instrument, used in processing.

## Salinity Options

- *Salinity from External File* - The salinity values used for SeaFET data processing are taken from the external file.
- *Salinity from SeaFET Data File Header* - The salinity value used for SeaFET data processing is taken from the SeaFET data file header.
- *CTD Salinity from SeaFET Data Frames* - The salinity values used for SeaFET data processing are those from an attached SeaBird CTD instrument taken from the SeaFET data frames. Note that



selecting this salinity source from a file that does not contain CTD salinity values will cause an error dialogue to open.

- **Salinity** - The salinity value used for SeaFET data processing is entered manually. The units are PSUs.

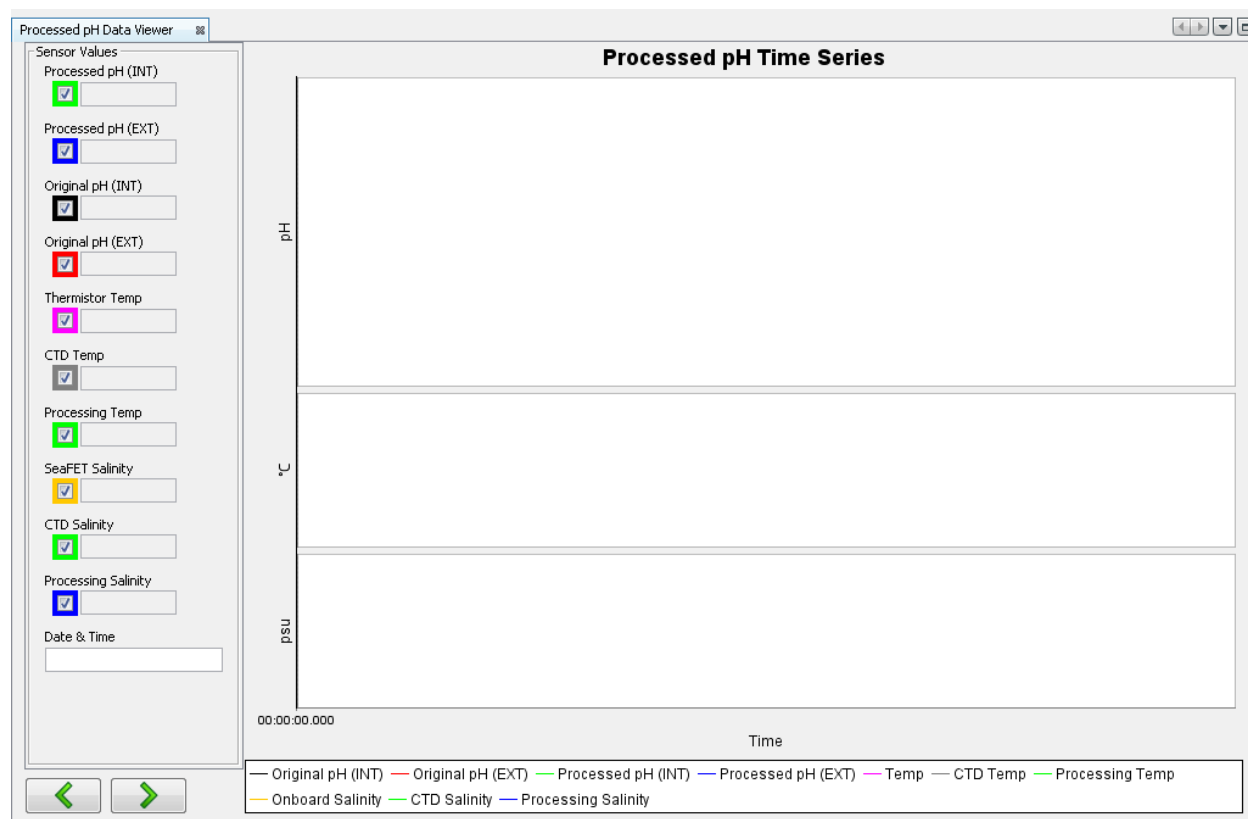
## Output Data Files

The processed data files are saved in a directory that can be selected using the "Browse" button. The currently selected output directory is displayed in the text field next to the "Browse" button.

- **Output Directory** - The directory where SeaFET processed data files will reside after processing.

## Displaying Processing Results

Results from SeaFET data processing are displayed within a custom graph that displays the original pH, temperature and salinity values and also the processed pH values. In addition, the temperature and salinity values used during processing are also displayed. Note that nothing is displayed for the CTD temperature and salinity values when they are not available, as would be the case if there was no attached CTD when the data was collected.



By clicking on the graph, a crosshair at a particular point in time can be displayed. It is placed on the graph at the closest time with corresponding data. The data values from all plots corresponding to the crosshair point are displayed in the boxes along the left hand side of the graph. Clicking on the arrow buttons will move the crosshair in the corresponding direction. The values of the boxes are updated accordingly.

Each plot has a checkbox associated with it. Clicking on the check box toggles the display of the associated plot on and off. The checkbox colour corresponds to that used in the associated plot.

## The SeaFET Data Processing Results

The SeaFET Data Processing results are saved in the output directory location within time stamped data files that contain log file headers with creation and processing information. The format of each frame of data saved in the file is described in the table below

Field Name	Format	Description
Header	AS 10	The frame header or synchronization string starts with "SAT" for a Satlantic instrument, followed by three characters identifying the frame as SeaFET Processed "PHP". The last four characters are the instrument serial number. (Ex. SATPHP0001)
Date	AI	The date from the raw data file with the format: YYYYDDD (i.e. 2012046)
Time	AF	The time from the raw data file in decimal hours (i.e. 16.4261)
Internal pH	AF	The original Internal pH as calculated by the Instrument
External pH	AF	The original External pH as calculated by the Instrument
Temperature	AF	The original temperature as calculated by the Instrument
Processed Internal pH	AF	The Internal pH calculated by SeaFETCom
Processed External pH	AF	The External pH calculated by SeaFETCom
Processing Temperature	AF	The temperature (C) used for processing SeaFET raw data frame
Processing Salinity	AF	The salinity (PSU) used for processing the SeaFET raw data frame

Processing Status	AI	The status of the processed values (0 = No Error)
Check Sum	AI	The verity byte frame check sum

*SeaFET Processed ASCII Data Frame Format*

# Maintenance

Topics in this chapter include:

- [Storage and Shipping](#)
- [Preventative Maintenance](#)
- [Battery Replacement](#)
- [Calibration](#)
- [Firmware Upgrade](#)

## Storage and Shipping

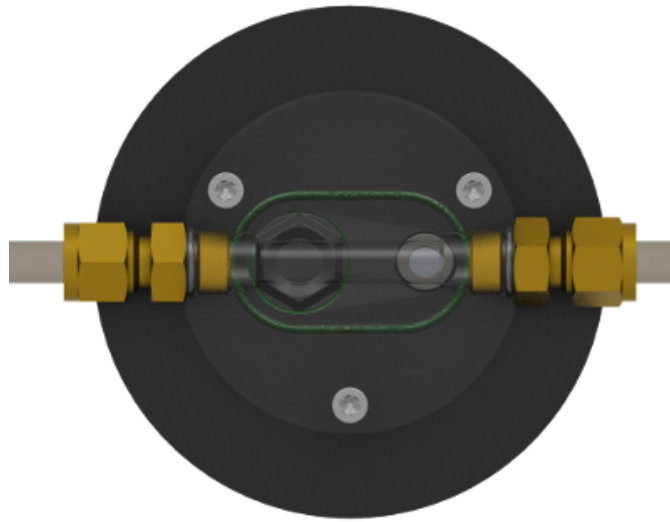
**WHEN THE INSTRUMENT IS NOT IN SERVICE, THE WET CAP MUST BE IN PLACE AND FILLED WITH AN APPROPRIATE STORAGE SOLUTION.**

**DO NOT ALLOW THE WET CAP STORAGE SOLUTION TO FREEZE DURING SHIPPING OR STORAGE. THIS WILL DAMAGE THE DURAFET AND VOID THE WARRANTY.**

SeaFET is shipped with the wet cap installed. The wet cap is filled with UV-sterilized, artificial seawater (salinity equivalent to 35 ppt, after Kester et al. 1967), immersing the sensing element and reference electrodes. If the sensor is taken out of service and is to be stored, follow the procedure below. Note that the wet cap must be installed and filled even for brief periods out of service, i.e. minutes.

### Wet Cap / Flow Cell Installation

1. Place the instrument on a flat surface with the sensor end cap on a side. Secure the instrument to prevent it from rolling, and possibly falling. Sitting the tube end on pliers handles can quickly provide a secure lock.
2. If the foul guards are in place, remove them.
3. Fit the wet cap O-ring in the groove on the bottom of the cap. O-ring grease should not be used in the vicinity of the ISFET sensing element and external reference electrode.
4. Place the wet cap with O-ring over the ISFET and external reference electrode, ensuring that the O-ring is in contact with the end cap face. Ensure that the O-ring fits snugly in the wet-cap groove and will not be pinched. If the cap is to be used as a flow cell, make sure it is installed as shown in the figure below. This orientation will ensure an appropriate liquid flow through the sensing elements.
5. Secure the wet cap to the end cap with three 10-32 x 5/8" screws using a 5/32" Hex driver or Allen key.
6. The wet cap should now be securely fastened to the instrument end cap and is ready to be filled with artificial seawater.
7. Through any of the wet cap holes pour sterilized artificial seawater with suitable spouted glassware, a funnel, or a syringe. Fill void space completely.
8. Insert and secure the plugs one at a time. Ensure that a reliable seal has been established. You may need to expel a very small quantity of water to facilitate the insertion of the last plug.
9. Wipe the instrument housing and wet cap surfaces dry of any excess artificial seawater.



**Flow Cell Orientation**

## Preventative Maintenance

**WHEN THE INSTRUMENT IS NOT IN SERVICE, THE WET CAP MUST BE IN PLACE AND FILLED WITH AN APPROPRIATE STORAGE SOLUTION.**

**DO NOT ALLOW THE WET CAP STORAGE SOLUTION TO FREEZE DURING SHIPPING OR STORAGE. THIS WILL DAMAGE THE DURAFET AND VOID THE WARRANTY.**

## Precautions

- Avoid touching sensing elements.
- Avoid allowing the ISFET / internal reference electrode to dry out.
- Avoid exposing the electrodes to hydrofluoric acid.
- Avoid exposing the sensor to high purity water e.g. Milli-Q, Super-Q (in many cases, clean tap water is preferred over distilled water).
- Accumulation of bubbles on electrode sensing surfaces is to be avoided. The solution in many cases involves proper instrument orientation. Diligence in choosing a deployment site that does not place the sensor in direct exposure to natural sources of bubbles is also recommended.
- Do not leave SeaFET in direct sunlight when not being used. Extreme heat (35°C or greater) can cause damage.

## Cleaning of Electrode Surfaces

1. Place the instrument on a bench or table such that the end cap bearing the electrodes and bulkhead connector are facing up.
2. Remove instrument wet-cap or foul guards as appropriate.
3. The electrodes may be placed under warm, flowing tap water in order to remove particulates.
4. For oily deposits, household detergents such as Joy® or Windex® may be used. Laboratory detergents such as Sparkleen® may be used.
5. The recommended cleaning procedure for any mineral deposits consists of rinsing the electrode in dilute acid (e.g. hydrochloric acid, rinse thoroughly following acid cleaning with distilled water).
6. The sensing elements may be wiped gently with non-linting tissues or cotton swaps without damage.
7. The external reference electrode may periodically be polished by rubbing the supplied polishing film over the electrode surface for 30 sec.

## Battery Replacement

The SeaFET battery compartment holds 12 alkaline D-Cell batteries. These batteries can be replaced when needed following the instructions below.

For this procedure you will need the following tools and accessories:

- 8/32" thumb screw
- 5/32" hex driver
- 1/4" socket driver
- A flat head screw driver
- 2 x fresh desiccant packs or a resealable bag to temporarily preserve the ones in use
- 12 x new D-cells

---

**Step 1 : Remove the vent plug.** Lay SeaFET on its side on a flat surface. Ensure the sensing elements are protected by the wet-cap or by the foul guard. Thread 8/32" thumb screw into the center thread of the vent plug. Pull on the thumb screw until it does not come out any further.



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**Step 2 : Remove end cap screws.** Using a 5/32" hex driver or Allen key, loosen and remove each of the three 10-32 x 3/8" screws from the battery end cap.





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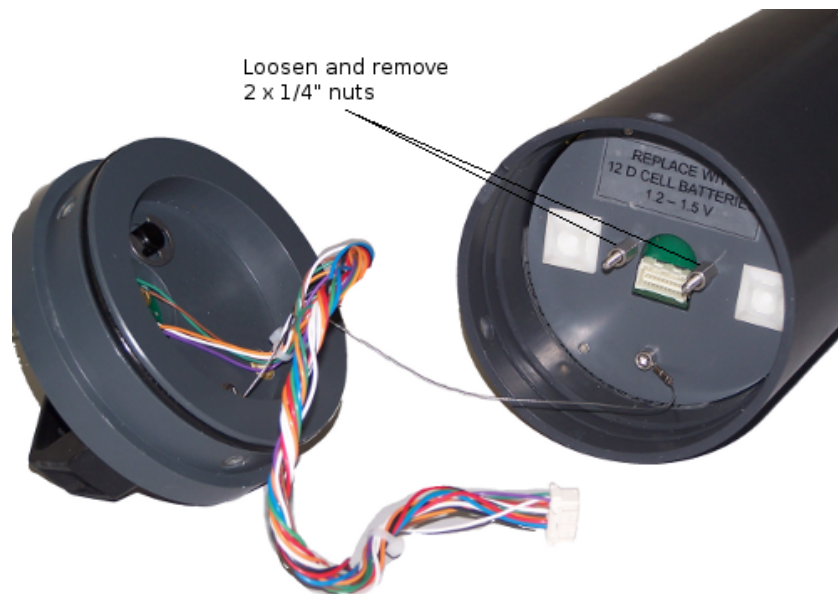
**Step 3 : Remove end cap.** Insert a flat head screwdriver into the end cap slot and use it to pry open the end cap until it can be grasped with your hand. Once the cap has been pried outward enough to get a good grip, pull it out with one hand. A safety lanyard anchors the end cap to the battery plate. This lanyard prevents accidentally pulling off the battery end cap connector wires when removing the end cap.





---

**Step 4 : Remove the battery plate.** Disconnect the white battery endcap connector by pressing its locking tab and gently pulling off. Remove the desiccant packs and preserve them in a sealed bag. Loosen and remove the two 1/4" nuts that secure the battery plate. When loaded, the battery plate compresses six springs that hold the battery stacks. To prevent the plate from locking when removing it loosen both nuts at the same time (ex. alternate loosening a few turns and switching to the other nut).





---

**Step 5 : Replace the batteries.** Remove and dispose appropriately the old batteries. Change all batteries at the same time and **never mix new and old batteries or different battery chemistries**. We recommend using industrial 1.5V alkaline D-Cells. Load the compartment with new batteries according to the polarity indicated in the compartment labels.



---

**Step 6 : Reinstall the battery plate.** Inspect, clean, and lubricate if necessary the O-rings on the battery end cap. Inspect and clean the surface on the inside of the battery compartment where the O-rings sit. At this point it is advisable to replace the desiccant packs for fresh ones if possible. Otherwise the

desiccants removed in **Step 4** can be reused. Reposition the battery plate and tighten the two nuts evenly until the plate is flush with the white connector.



---

**Step 7 : Reinstall the battery end cap.** Reconnect the battery connector making sure it locks in the receptacle. With the vent plug still out, replace the end cap while carefully guiding in the cable harness and lanyard making sure they are not pinched against the end cap. Secure the end cap with the three 10-32 x 3/8" screws using a 5/32" hex driver. Insert the vent plug fully.

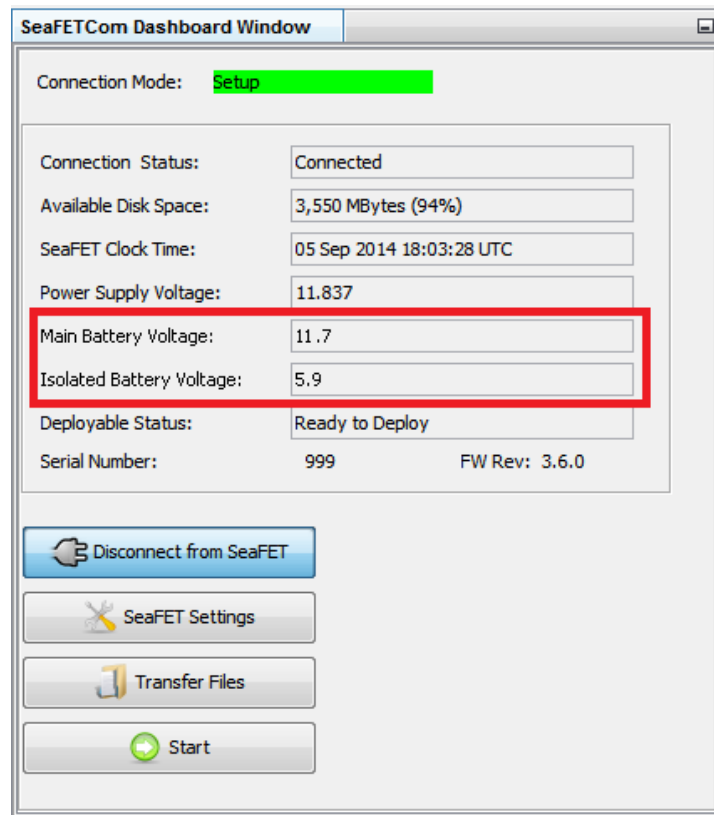


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**Step 8 : Verification.** Using a test cable (USB or RS-232 with the external power leads connected to a live supply) establish a connection to SeaFETCom. Activate the internal batteries from the SeaFETCom dashboard and check that the voltage readings for the main and isolated battery packs are consistent with their nominal values (12V and 6V respectively if alkaline batteries are being used). If either voltage is

too low then it is possible that one or more batteries are not installed properly or are defective. Re-open the battery end cap and correct the problem.

Once finished deactivate the internal batteries for preserving power if desired and disconnect from SeaFETCom by selecting Advanced->Disconnect for Storage from the Sensor menu bar.



## Calibration

SeaFET calibrated at the Satlantic facility using a single-point calibration at 0.5m depth. An estimate of the pH (reported on the total scale, referred to herein as the standard value) associated with a water sample drawn in the vicinity of the sensor is obtained through an implementation of the spectrophotometric pH determination technique developed by Byrne et al., (1988), Clayton and Byrne, (1993). Cell potentials recorded by the SeaFET, coincident in time with water sampling, are used together with the standard value of pH to compute a set of coefficients.

Calibration coefficients are stored on SeaFET. Coefficients are in used conjunction with an on-board temperature measurement and the user-selectable salinity constant (see [Processing Settings](#) ) to calculate pH from the cell voltage potentials of the FET. The calculated pH value is sent within each data frame generated by SeaFET.

Calibration coefficients are written to the header section of every data file logged by SeaFET. When reprocessing previously logged data, SeaFETCom retrieves the coefficients from the header records of each file to be reprocessed.

To ensure the highest level of accuracy of both on-board pH calculation and reprocessing, **Satlantic recommends that your SeaFET be returned to our facility for recalibration on an annual basis.**

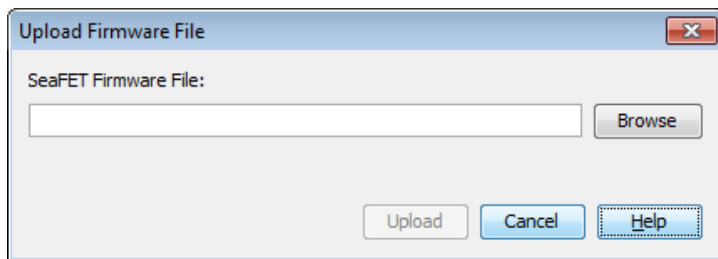
Satlantic additionally recommends that you periodically monitor the the accuracy of your SeaFET calibration via comparison of calculated pH values with independently measured pH samples taken shortly before and after deployments, either in-situ or through direct measurements of a primary standard under temperature controlled conditions.

Note that the SeaFET is shipped with a calibration performed at 0.5m depth. Since the ISFET sensor exhibits a **pressure sensitivity** this calibration is only valid for near surface deployments. For obtaining accurate measurements at deeper deployments Satlantic recommends that independent pH samples are taken in-situ shortly before and after deployment in order to apply an offset correction.

## Firmware Upgrade

Satlantic may occasionally release new SeaFET firmware to provide fixes or improvements. To upgrade SeaFET firmware using a firmware file provided by Satlantic:

1. Select *Sensor -> Advanced -> Upload Firmware File* from the SeaFETCom main menu.
2. Press the *Browse* button to locate the supplied SeaFET firmware file.
3. Press the *Upload* button to start the firmware upload.
4. Wait until SeaFET is returned to Setup Mode. This can take about one minute.



### Cautions:

- Do not attempt to upgrade SeaFET firmware unless directed to do so by Satlantic.
- If the procedure is interrupted, the instrument is left without a working firmware.

# Troubleshooting

## Invalid Frames in data

Within any data logging application there is a possibility that corrupt data values can get into a frame. For each corrupt frame the user should see a message such as “Lost Bytes” in the Application tab of the output panel. In addition to this, the SeaFETCom Error Event panel should be displayed in SeaFETCom. SeaFETCom will display this frame corruption, then ignore these corrupt data points and continue.

## No Connection to SeaFET

If SeaFETCom is unable to establish a connection to SeaFET, attempt to connect to SeaFET using a terminal emulation program (such as TerraTerm or HyperTerm). SeaFET uses the following serial connection settings.

Data Bits	8
Parity	None
Stop Bits	1
Flow Control	None

Baud rate can be changed by the user, but is initially set to 57600 when shipped.

If a connection cannot be established then please contact Satlantic support. [support@satlantic.com](mailto:support@satlantic.com)

## SeaFETCom Message Logs

All activity that occurs with SeaFETCom is logged to disk in an application log file. The location of these log files is shown in the **Message Logging Settings** dialog that can be opened from the **Edit** menu.

Although the contents of the log are somewhat cryptic and mainly for use by Satlantic personnel to diagnose problems within the application, it will often provide clues to errors that exist within the application. Each line in the log represents an event that occurs within the application. Below is a short explanation of the format of a logged message to assist the user in trying to self diagnose problems that may occur.

A logged message has the following format:

```
<Date/Time>, <Module>:<Code> ~ <Message> <optional stack trace>
```

**Date/Time** - Displays the date and time when the message was logged.

**Module** - Displays the module that initiated the log message (i.e. Internal, Core or GUI)



**Code** - Internal code (i.e. ISC-1100-ERR) describing the module, internal error number and severity. Severity is either INF(info), WRN(warning) or ERR(error).

**Message** - A text based representation of the event

**Stack Trace** - Optionally occurs when unexpected errors happen to show the state of the application when the error occurred.

Here is an example that shows an error that occurred when trying to connect to a SeaFET:

```
2008-03-80 10:25:21 UTC, SeaFETCom : ISC-6804-ERR ~ Calculate file identity failed.
java.io.FileNotFoundException: C:\Program Files\Satlantic\SeaFETCom-1.0.0\CURRENT.CAL (The system cannot f
    at java.io.FileInputStream.open(Native Method)
    at java.io.FileInputStream.<init>(FileInputStream.java:106)
    at com.satlantic.ph.seafet.Ancillary.calculateIdentity(Ancillary.java:205)
    at com.satlantic.ph.seafet.ui.actions.simple.SerialConnectAction.attachedToPort(SerialConnectActio
    at com.satlantic.ph.seafet.ancillary.AttemptConnectPort.run(AttemptConnectPort.java:155)
    at java.lang.Thread.run(Thread.java:619)
```

Such stack trace messages can help Satlantic support engineers diagnose errors. When reporting an error to Satlantic, please have the following information on hand:

- The version of SeaFETCom you are using (see SeaFETCom About dialog)
- The version of firmware and serial number of the SeaFET you are using (see SeaFETCom Dashboard)
- The following files:
  - o SeaFET logged raw data file
  - o SeaFETCom message log file

# Contact Satlantic

If you have any questions, comments or concerns about your SeaFET, please contact us.

## Satlantic

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Web: <http://www.satlantic.com>

## Business Hours

Satlantic is normally open for business between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM Atlantic Time. Atlantic Time is one hour ahead of the Eastern Time. Daylight saving time is in effect from 2:00 AM on the second Sunday in March through 2:00 AM on the first Sunday in November. Atlantic Standard Time (AST) is UTC-4. Atlantic Daylight Saving Time (ADT) is UTC-3.

Satlantic is not open for business during the following holidays:

- **New Year's Day** January 1st
- **Heritage Day** The third Monday in February
- **Good Friday** The Friday before Easter Sunday (Easter Sunday is the first Sunday after the full moon on or following March 21 st , or one week later if the full moon falls on Sunday)
- **Victoria Day** The first Monday before May 25 th
- **Canada Day** July 1st
- **Civic Holiday** The first Monday in August
- **Labor Day** The first Monday in September
- **Thanksgiving Day** The second Monday in October
- **Remembrance Day** November 11th
- **Christmas Day** December 25th

# Data Formats Reference

SeaFET outputs sensor data in ASCII (text character) format. Data are packaged in *frames*.

Each frame consists of *fields*. Fields are delimited (separated) by the comma (',') character. The first field of any frame is a synchronization header. Every frame is terminated with a carriage return <CR> and a line-feed <LF> (0x0D 0x0A).

Each field represents a number or a text using one of the following formats:

- ASCII Integer (AI). Example: '245'.
- ASCII Float (AF). Example: '-0.832034'.
- ASCII String (AS). Example: 'SATPHA0001'.

SeaFET can be configured to output one of two available frame formats:

1. Long ASCII Frame
2. Short ASCII Frame

**Long ASCII** frame example:

```
SATPHA0001,2014083,13.0932646,7.80829,7.78879,20.5221,20.5038,32.6027,4.669,10.523,0.05975991,-0.85879952,1.13056064,11.326,114,0.5,4.882,9.602,6.106,5.903,100,100,-0.95693927,0x0000,7<CR><LF>
```

**Short ASCII** frame example:

```
SATPHB0001,2014083,13.0932646,7.80829,7.78879,20.5221,20.5038,32.6027,4.669,10.523,0x0000,234<CR><LF>
```

The following tables define fields for each frame. The integer component of the *Format* column specifies the fixed size or variable size range of the described field.

## SeaFET Full ASCII Data Frame Format

Field Name	Format	Description
HEADER	AS 10	The frame header or synchronization string starts with "SAT" for a Satlantic instrument, followed by three characters identifying the frame type. The last four characters are the instrument serial number.  Example for serial number 0001: SATPHA0001
DATE	AI 7	Sample Date (UTC) in format, YYYYDDD

TIME	AF 9...10	Sample Time (UTC) in format, DECIMALHOUR
PH_INT	AF 7...8	FET INT calculated pH in total scale
PH_EXT	AF 7...8	FET EXT calculated pH in total scale
TEMP	AF 6...8	ISFET Thermistor temperature (°C)
TEMP_CTD	AF 6...8	CTD temperature (°C)
S_CTD	AF 6...7	CTD salinity (psu)
O_CTD	AF 5...6	CTD oxygen concentration (ml/L)
P_CTD	AF 5...6	CTD pressure (dbar)
Vrs(FET INT)	AF 10...11	FET INT voltage (V)
Vrs(FET EXT)	AF 10...11	FET EXT voltage (V)
V_THERM	AF 10	Thermistor voltage (V)
V_SUPPLY	AF 5...6	Supply voltage (V)
I_SUPPLY	AI	Supply current (mA)
HUMIDITY	AF 3...4	Electronics compartment relative humidity (%)
V_5V	AF 5	Internal 5V supply voltage (V)
V_MBATT	AF 5...6	Main battery pack voltage (V)
V_ISO	AF 5	Internal isolated supply voltage (V)
V_ISOBATT	AF 5	Isolated battery pack voltage (V)
I_B	AI	Substrate leakage current (nA)
I_K	AI	Counter electrode leakage current (nA)
V_K	AF 10...11	Counter electrode voltage (V)
STATUS	AS 6	Status word (a 16-bit hexadecimal formatted bitmask indicating system status)

CHECK SUM	AI 1...3	The sum of all bytes up to an including the checksum value should be 0.
TERMINATOR	AS 2	This field marks the end of the data frame with a carriage return/line feed pair (hexadecimal 0x0D and 0x0A).

The maximum number of characters in a Full ASCII frame is 197.

### SeaFET Short ASCII Data Frame Format

Field Name	Format	Description
HEADER	AS 10	The frame header or synchronization string starts with "SAT" for a Satlantic instrument, followed by three characters identifying the frame type. The last four characters are the instrument serial number.  Example for serial number 0001: SATPHB0001
DATE	AI 7	Sample Date (UTC) in format, YYYYDDD
TIME	AF 9...10	Sample Time (UTC) in format, DECIMALHOUR
PH_INT	AF 7...8	FET INT calculated pH in total scale
PH_EXT	AF 7...8	FET EXT calculated pH in total scale
TEMP	AF 6...8	ISFET Thermistor temperature (°C)
TEMP_CTD	AF 6...8	CTD temperature (°C)
S_CTD	AF 6...7	CTD salinity (psu)
O_CTD	AF 5...6	CTD oxygen concentration (ml/L)
P_CTD	AF 5...6	CTD pressure (dbar)
STATUS	AS 6	Status word (a 16-bit hexadecimal formatted bitmask indicating system status)
CHECK SUM	AI 1...3	The sum of all bytes up to an including the checksum value should be 0.

TERMINATOR	AS 2	This field marks the end of the data frame with a carriage return/line feed pair (hexadecimal 0x0D and 0x0A).
------------	------	---

The maximum number of characters in a Short ASCII frame is 101.

## CTD Data Frame Format

**NOTE:** Units reported will depend on the appropriate configuration of the CTD output format. Refer to the CTD user manual for instructions on how to configure the output units.

Field Name	Format	Description
HEADER	AS 10	The frame header or synchronization string starts with "SAT" for a Satlantic instrument, followed by three characters identifying the frame type. The last four characters are the instrument serial number.  Example for serial number 0001: SATPHC0001
t1	AF 6...8	Temperature (°C)
c1	AF 7	Conductivity (S/m)
p1	AF 5...8	Pressure (dbar)
ox63r	AF 5...6	Oxygen concentration (ml/L)
sal	AF 6...8	Salinity (psu)
sv	AF 5...8	Sound velocity
sc	AF 7	Specific conductivity
dt	AS 19	Date and Time (YYYY-MM-DDThh:mm:ss, ex. 2014-03-24T13:03:55)
TERMINATOR	AS 2	This field marks the end of the data frame with a carriage return/line feed pair (hexadecimal 0x0D and 0x0A).

The maximum number of characters in a CTD frame is 91.

# Using a Terminal Emulator

The following is an example of how to deploy a SeaFET Ocean pH Sensor using a terminal emulator:

1. Remove the dummy plug from the SeaFET connector and connect the test cable. Secure the locking sleeve.
2. Connect the data end of the test cable to a computer. If using the RS-232 interface, connect the test cable DB9 connector to a serial port or to a serial to USB adapter to a USB port.  
If using the USB interface:
  - a. Install the USB driver bundled with the SeaFETCom installer (first time only).
  - b. Connect the USB male connector to a USB port and wait for the host to recognize the sensor.
  - c. A new COM port (virtual) should become available. NOTE: COM number varies host to host.
3. Using a terminal emulator such as HyperTerm or TeraTerm, open a connection at 57600 bps, 8 bits, no parity, 1 stop bit.
4. If using the RS-232 interface: connect the test cable power jacks to a 12V DC power supply and switch it on. If connecting through the USB interface power will be drawn from the host USB bus.
5. Observe SeaFET output in terminal emulator. NOTE: If connected through the USB virtual COM or if the internal batteries were previously connected you may not see output until breaking into the command console (Step 6).
6. Enter '\$' repeatedly to break into command mode. You should see the command prompt:  
SeaFET>
7. Set system clock.  
SeaFET>set --clock yyyy/mm/dd.hh:mm:ss
8. Configure Operational Mode
  - i. For continuous operation:  
SeaFET>set --opermode continuous
  - ii. Or, for periodic scheduled operation including the sampling interval number of samples per event:  
SeaFET>set --opermode periodic  
SeaFET>set --perdival 1h (Ex. one event each hour)  
SeaFET>set --brstsize 5 (Ex. 5 samples per event)
9. Configure the averaging size per sample  
SeaFET>set --navg 10 (Ex. average 10 measurements per sample)
10. Ensure that the internal batteries are activated  
SeaFET>batton
11. Start sampling  
SeaFET>exit

12. If using the USB interface eject/unmount the SeaFET from your OS and unplug the USB cable.
13. Connect a power cable or re-install the dummy plug for self powered deployment.
14. Remove wet cap and install anti-fouling guard.
15. Deploy SeaFET.



# Command Reference

SeaFET can be configured and controlled via its serial command line interface. To access the SeaFET command line interface via a terminal emulation program, please refer to [Using a Terminal Emulator](#) .

## Commands

Command	Description
help	Print a command reference.
set --<setting> <value>	Change various settings. See below tables for relevant settings. Ex. SeaFET>set --baudrate 115200
get --<setting>	Read various settings and parameters. See below tables for relevant settings / parameters. Ex. SeaFET>get --clock
list [--pkg   --data   --log]	List directory contents. Ex. SeaFET>list --data
send [--pkg   --data   --log <file>]	Transfer a sensor file to the host via XMODEM. Ex. SeaFET>send --data C0000001.csv
receive [--pkg   --data   --log <file>]	Transfer a host file to the sensor via XMODEM. Ex. SeaFET>receive --pkg SEAF0009.zip
delete [--pkg   --data   --log <file>   *]	Erase a file. Asterisk erases all files in a directory. Ex. SeaFET>delete --data C0000001.csv
chksum [--pkg   --data   --log <file>]	Get a file checksum. Ex. SeaFET>chksum --pkg SEAF0009.zip
chbaud	Refresh telemetry baudrate immediately. Baudrate will otherwise be refreshed upon rebooting the sensor.
dmesg [<dump_size_in_bytes>]	Dump latest system messages.
freset [--force] [--all]	Resets the sensor settings to factory defaults. The --all argument also resets the file counters. NOTE: Ensure there are no data log files in the system when using this switch.

reboot	Reboots the sensor. NOTE: Will reset USB connections.
upgrade	Start firmware upgrade tool.
ctdterm	Start a CTD Terminal. The SeaFET will act as a gateway to the slave CTD.
syncctd	Force a time synchronization between the SeaFET and the CTD. The CTD will get the SeaFET time.
battoff	Disconnect the internal batteries. NOTE: To be used for storage or shipping to preserve batteries. The internal batteries must remain connected for most deployment scenarios.
batton	Connect the internal batteries.
exit	Resume operational mode.

### Readable/Writable Settings

Setting	Description	Valid values / Syntax
baudrate	Telemetry baudrate	9600,19200,38400,57600,115200
clock	System time	yyyy/mm/dd.hh:mm:ss
opermode	Operational mode	CONTINUOUS, PERIODIC, POLLED
samplwin	Continuous/periodic sampling window enable	false(disable),true(enable)
samstart	Continuous/periodic sampling window start time	yyyy/mm/dd.hh:mm:ss
samstop	Continuous/periodic sampling window start time	yyyy/mm/dd.hh:mm:ss
perdival	Periodic sampling interval	1m,2m,5m,6m,10m,15m,20m,30m,1h,2h,3h,4h,6h,8h,12h,24h
perdoffs	Periodic sampling offset	0 to 'perdival' in seconds
navg	Sample average size	1-100

brstsize	Burst size	1-255
samdelay	Sample delay (s). Time from wake-up to start of sampling. NOTE: This setting is ignored if the external pump control is enabled	0-255
logfrtyp	Logged frame type	NONE, SHORT_ASCII, FULL_ASCII
outfrtyp	Telemetry frame type	NONE, SHORT_ASCII, FULL_ASCII
logftype	Log file generation rule	ACQUISITION, CONTINUOUS, DAILY
datfsz	Size limit in MB for 'CONTINUOUS' files	0-255 (0 = No limit)
msglevel	Message log verbosity	ERROR(least verbose),WARN,INFO,DEBUG(most verbose)
msgtotlm	Replicate messages in telemetry	false(disable),true(enable)
msgfsz	Message file size limit (KB)	1-65535
thcal	Thermistor calibration constants	[T0,T1,T2,T3](without any spaces)
inrefcal	Internal reference calibration constants	[I0,I1](without any spaces)
exrefcal	External reference calibration constants	[E0,E1](without any spaces)
intsal	Internally stored salinity (psu)	10-50
usepump	Enable external pump control	false(disable),true(enable)
pmptime	Total pumping time (s)	1-255
pmpflush	Flush time (s). Time from pump start to start of sampling	0-255
usectd	Enable slave CTD control and on-the-fly TS corrections	false(disable),true(enable)

usectds	Use CTD salinity for pH calculations	false, true
usectdt	Use CTD temperature for pH calculations	false, true
ctdto	CTD response timeout (s)	15-600
ctdpower	Supply power to CTD when sampling. NOTE: Will use internal batteries or external power (if available) to power the CTD.	false, true
ctdtelem	Replicate CTD data frames in SeaFET telemetry	false, true
syncctd	Enable periodic CTD clock synchronization	false, true

**Read only parameters**

Setting	Description
serialno	Serial number
fwversn	Firmware version
disktotal	Total disk size (bytes)
diskfree	Available disk space (bytes)
mainvolt	Main power level (V)
mainbattv	Main battery pack voltage (V)
isobattv	Isolated battery pack voltage (V)
rtcbattv	RTC backup battery voltage (V). NOTE: Every time this parameter is checked an extra amount of current is drawn from the RTC backup battery. Keep reads to a minimum.
interhum	Electronics compartment relative humidity (%)

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